

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

4,300 'Khomeini agents' killed

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian dissidents claimed Tuesday they have killed or wounded 4,300 Iranian soldiers or officials in 94 attacks in western Iran this year. The Mujahedeen-e-Khalq said in a statement telefaxed from their headquarters in Baghdad to AP in Nicosia that 400 Iranians were killed or wounded in the latest attack Friday by the National Liberation Army (NLA). The NLA, composed mainly of Mujahedeen fighters, was formed in June by the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq's leader, Massoud Rajavi. Another group opposed to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's regime, the Mujahedeen Baluchistan, operating in southeast Iran, said its fighters carried out 13 attacks between Aug. 19 and Oct. 5, killing a "large number" of Iranian troops. Its statement, carried by the Iraqi News Agency and monitored in Nicosia, gave no details. The Mujahedeen-e-Khalq statement said that following "the escalating offensive mounted by the NLA along the entire Iran-Iraq border... the Khomeini regime was finally forced today to break its policy of silence with regard to the unprecedented rise in NLA attacks." It said Tehran radio announced that Tehran's security council "met this morning to discuss means of countering the Mujahedeen movement in the country's western border regions."

Kuwaiti official unaware of new attack

KUWAIT (Agencies) — A senior Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) official said on Tuesday he was unaware of any new attack against Kuwait oil installations. The official was responding to rumors on world oil markets that Iran had fired another shells at the emirate, hitting oil installations near its northern border. "I have not heard of anything," he told Reuters. Diplomats said artillery shells from the nearby Iran-Iraq war front have in the past fallen in the northern Kuwait desert without causing damage. Meanwhile a mine surfaced in the desert Gulf Tuesday. Gulf-based marine salvage executives said the Iranian tanker Khark 1 reported sighting the mine at 9.30 a.m. (0630 GMT) in a main shipping lane about 65 kilometers off the Iranian coast, and 120 kilometers northwest of the Qatar Peninsula. The Iranian tanker broadcast a warning to vessels to keep clear of the area, said the executives. Nearly two hours later, a distress signal was picked up by radio monitors from an unidentified vessel that gave its location some 80 kilometers closer to the Iranian coast. "The vessel only put out a SOS but it did not identify itself or mention what happened," said one radio monitor. He said, because of its location only Iranian boats can help the vessel in distress.

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Regent sends good wishes to Somalia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday sent a cable to Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre congratulating him on his country's National Day. In his cable the Regent wished President Barre continued good health and happiness and the Somali people further progress and prosperity.

New U.S. escort convoy sets sail

BAHRAIN (AP) — A new convoy of reflagged Kuwaiti tankers and their U.S. escorts set sail Tuesday. The Pentagon, in a brief statement from Washington, said the new convoy began sailing from Kuwaiti waters around 9:30 a.m. local time (0630 GMT), steaming southward towards the Strait of Hormuz. The convoy consisted of two reflagged Kuwaiti ships — the 80,000-ton product carrier Ocean City and the 46,000-ton liquefied petroleum tanker Gas King — and the guided-missile frigate USS Ford, the Pentagon said.

UNESCO opens general conference

PARIS (AP) — A critical six-week meeting of UNESCO's 24th general conference opened Tuesday, troubled by a bitter electoral battle to name Federico Mayor Zaragoza of Spain as the next director-general of the organization. Mr. Mayor's nomination, on a vote of 30 for and 20 against, must be approved by the conference. UNESCO's highest decision-making body. But delegates from 158 nations taking part can also reject it.

Assad in Sofia

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad arrived in Sofia, the Bulgarian capital, Tuesday and held a closed meeting with President Todor Zhivkov, Syrian Television reported. Mr. Assad flew to Sofia earlier in the day for an official three-day visit at the invitation of Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov.

Train hits bus killing 20 in Pakistan

KARACHI (R) — A passenger train hit a bus at an unmanned level-crossing on Tuesday killing 20 people and injuring about 60 in Pakistan's southern province of Sind, relief workers said. Railway officials said the accident happened near the central Sind town of Nawabshah.

Gulf official says Egypt to return soon to Arab fold

KUWAIT (R) — Egypt, boycotted by most Arab states for its 1979 accord with Israel, will return very soon to the Arab League, a senior Gulf Arab official was quoted on Tuesday as saying. Ibrahim Al Subhi, former assistant secretary general for political affairs at the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), told Al Siyassah newspaper that Arab states were widely sympathetic to Egypt's role in Arab and international affairs. "The restoration of relations with Egypt requires nothing more than a formality, and the step will take place very soon so Egypt can resume its effective participation in solving Arab problems," he said.

King meets Vorontsov in London and accepts invitation to Moscow

His Majesty holds second round of talks with Shultz on Mideast and Gulf events

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

LONDON — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday met here with the Soviet Union's first deputy foreign minister, Yuli Vorontsov, and reviewed with him the latest developments in the Gulf war and their consequences on the Gulf Arab states and freedom of navigation in the strategic waterway.

The King and Mr. Vorontsov also discussed issues of mutual concern to Jordan and the Soviet Union in the light of a possible summit between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Talks

also discussed prospects for holding a summit between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze are expected to produce a Moscow-Washington agreement on the summit.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said during the London meeting, Jordan and the Soviet Union agreed on the urgent need to implement in full U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 of July 20 which calls for an immediate ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war and peaceful negotiations to settle the seven-year-old conflict.

Petra said Mr. Vorontsov, who visited the Middle East before arriving in London, also extended an invitation from Mr. Gorbachev to the King to visit the Soviet Union. His Majesty accepted the invitation and promised to pay the visit before the end of this year.

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Crown Prince explains Jordan's centrist approach

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday said that centristism was in essence a "scientific and mental position that does not adopt one complete perspective towards different stands and events." However, he added, every extremist position is doomed to conflict one day with the reality.

In a lecture he delivered at the Royal Command and Staff College, Prince Hassan said that centristism in politics and economy requires "knowledge on the details of the stand we are supposed to adopt and the objective and timing of that stand."

On the historical and religious background of the concept of centristism, Prince Hassan said that Greek and Muslim philosophers had enhanced this concept, which was also mentioned in one of the verses of the Holy Koran which describes Muslims as a moderate



an expression of the human and moral commitment.

Prince Hassan added that Jordan, which has inherited the message of the Great Arab Revolt and has followed its path, has become the heart of the Arab World and a converging point.

"Jordan enjoys a unique status in the Arab World because it has always been keen on rallying the Arab fold and unifying their ranks. Therefore it has become an example which should be emulated in the field of social and economic progress and a pioneer for the political moderation in this fluctuating world," the Regent said.

In his lecture, entitled "Jordan and Centristism," Prince Hassan also spoke about pluralism and described it as a fertile source for innovation and honest competition and a unique example for deep interaction among human beings.

On Jordan's application of centristism, Prince Hassan said Jordan's dealings at the Arab, Muslim and international levels had always been characterized by moderation and by its keen interest to draw closer various viewpoints and to find common grounds where all parties could meet.

"Jordan has never adopted extremism as a principle of policy and has never resorted to clashes as a method for dealing but for defending the national and Arab interests," Prince Hassan said.

The establishment of the Arab Thought Forum, the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilization Research and the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues are the practical interpretation of Jordan's understanding and adoption of centristism, the Crown Prince said.

U.N. chief reportedly proposing concurrent ceasefire and probe in Gulf war

DUBAI (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar is proposing a simultaneous ceasefire and inquiry into who started the Iran-Iraq war under a revised peace plan, a United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper reported on Tuesday.

The daily Al Khaleej published what it said was the text of his nine-point peace plan.

Diplomatic sources said the plan was closer to Iran's position in directly linking a ceasefire to an impartial inquiry to determine who was to blame for the seven-year-old war, which has cost more than a million casualties.

The original plan which Mr. Perez de Cuellar took to Tehran and Baghdad last month envisaged a step-by-step approach with a truce first, followed by troop withdrawals and an inquiry later.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar announced the modified plan on Oct. 15 and gave Iran and Iraq until the end of this month to respond to his renewed efforts to negotiate implementation of a ceasefire ordered by the U.N. Security Council three months ago.

Iran refused to accept or reject the resolution outright, and consistently declared that Iraq must first be declared "the aggressor" before there could be a cessation of hostilities.

On Sunday, Iran's First Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati was quoted by the national news agency IRNA as saying Tehran would accept an unofficial ceasefire if a court was held simultaneously "to brand Iraq as the aggressor."

Reports emerged from U.N. sources last month that Mr. Perez de Cuellar went to Tehran that Iran might be prepared to accept an unofficial truce. But this was the first time a senior Iranian official had publicly acknowledged the possibility.

Al Khaleej was the first paper to report Iran was ready for a temporary truce.

The daily's latest report hit the front page as Iran shifted its threats from Iraq to the United States, pledging it would retaliate for an American attack on the Gulf oil platforms in the Gulf on Monday.

The Al Khaleej text referred to a ceasefire date as D-day and stipulated: "On D-day, or another date to be agreed upon, an impartial body to enquire into responsibility for the conflict would start work."

The text added that a choice could be made among existing bodies or an ad hoc body could be established.

The plan also envisaged setting a deadline for the body to complete its work.

Regent visits flood-hit area, orders stream-lined emergency work

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, toured Jordan Valley farmlands damaged in this week's flash floods and called for a general agricultural insurance plan to cover losses caused by floods and rains.

During his tour of the flood-stricken area, the Regent also called for the formation of a joint task force including representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, the National Aid Fund and the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) to be entrusted with the task of preparing a report on the losses incurred in



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday visits Jordan Valley farming areas damaged in flash floods (Petra photo)

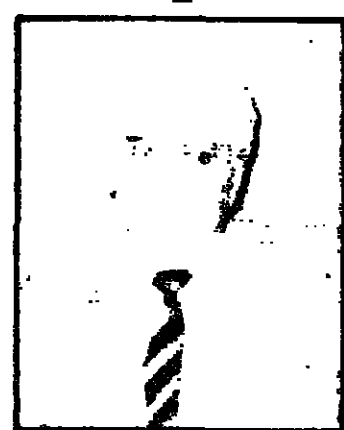
E. Germany supports preparatory talks on Mideast peace conference

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — East Germany supports the French-Soviet proposal for a preparatory meeting comprised of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and all the parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict to pave the way for an international peace conference to settle the Mideast problem, a senior East German official said Tuesday.

"We consider an international conference under the auspice of the U.N. as the only way out in a collective search for a lasting peace," said Reiner Neumann, director of the Near and Middle East desk at the East German Foreign Ministry.

Mr. Neumann, who was to leave Amman today after a four-day visit, said any solution to the Palestinian problem would have to have the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation



Reiner Neumann

(PLO). East Germany considers the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people, he said, adding "the GDR (German Democratic Republic) is in favour of self-determination for the Palestinians. What self-determination means is for the Palestinians to decide for themselves."

Asked if there was any possibility of East Germany establishing relations with Israel, Mr. Neumann replied that unlike other socialist states the GDR had not had relations with Israel in the past and or does it maintain relations now. "It is out of the question to have any discussions with Israel," he said.

Commenting on the extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Amman on Nov. 8, Mr. Neumann said that holding a meeting which grouped all the Arab states was a positive step forward. He praised Jordan's role in preparations for the conference.

On prospects for uniting East and West Germany, Mr. Neumann posed a question: "If anyone can tell me how to unite water and fire then we will reunite." He said that despite an obvious thaw in relations between the two states, "fundamental differences remain."

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Shamir denies 'softening' opposition to int'l parley

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has denied reports that he had softened his opposition to an international peace conference on the Middle East during meetings this week with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Mr. Shamir's spokesman, Avi Pazner, described the reports, carried by an Israeli newspaper and Israel army radio, on Tuesday, as "pure fabrication" and rejected any suggestion that the right-wing Likud leader had backed down in his opposition to an international conference under U.N. auspices.

According to the reports carried by the Haaretz daily and Israel army radio, Mr. Shamir agreed to explore ways of launching peace negotiations under U.S. and Soviet sponsorship and possibly alongside an international peace conference.

"I strongly deny there has been a change in Mr. Shamir's stand of advocating direct negotiations" with the Arabs," Pazner told AP.

The spokesman declined to directly address suggestions in the reports that Mr. Shamir had agreed for Mr. Shultz to seek a

compromise on the proposed conference with Arab leaders and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Haaretz said in an unattributed front page story that Mr. Shamir left the door open to convene peace talks with Jordan alongside an international conference.

In an apparent effort to satisfy Mr. Shamir's demand for direct negotiations, the paper said, "the bilateral talks would occur at a time and place that was different from the opening of an international conference and would deal in parallel with an interim solution and a permanent settlement between Jordan and Israel."

In Amman on Monday, Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib said Jordan rejects any change in the framework for the proposed international conference which should be convened under U.N. auspices and attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"Neither Israel nor the U.S. has the right to introduce any

U.S. fighter crashes into hotel, 9 killed

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A military jet crashed short of an Indianapolis international airport runway Tuesday, plowed into a hotel and exploded. At least 9 people died and others were injured, authorities and witnesses said.

Up to 25 people were missing and 9 were confirmed dead in the accident at the 220-room Ramada Inn Airport, which occurred just after 9 a.m. (1300 GMT), said Robert Duncan, an attorney for the Indianapolis airport authority.

Up to 10 people were transported to area hospitals.

The A-7D Corsair jet fighter was attempting to make an emergency landing after an engine flameout, according to the Federal Aviation Administration. It went down about 1.5 kilometers east of the airport, first hitting a bank building and slamming into the north side of the building.

The pilot of the plane, assigned to a test unit at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, bailed out before the crash and was taken to the hospital.

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NEW YORK (Agencies) — Wall Street stocks, trying to recover from Monday's historic 508-point sell-off, rallied, sank and then rebounded to make modest gains on Tuesday.

The rebound came as major corporations bought back their own shares and much-feared computer programme trading was temporarily halted by the exchanges.

The Dow Jones average, which had begun with a 175-point recovery rally early in the day only to see it crumble to a loss of 30 points, was 33 points higher at 1,770 in extremely volatile afternoon trading.

The White House said it had no plans for action to counter the stock market debacle but Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan

Greenspan said the Fed was ready to help support the financial system.

Before trading began on Wall Street, on Tuesday, Mr. Greenspan said the U.S. central bank affirmed "its readiness to serve as a source of liquidity to support the economic and financial system."

The statement was apparently intended to help calm the panic that sent the stock market crashing.

The 22.6 per cent plunge has raised fears that such a massive decline could push the American economy into a downturn similar to that which ushered in the 1929 great depression. The Fed was partially blamed for that depression for slowing money supply growth, choking off credit at a

time when liquidity was badly needed.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said no special meetings or working groups had been scheduled to deal with the stock market crisis.

Wall Street also responded to concerted action by major U.S. financial markets to close down programme trading, the controversial computer driven activity, which became notorious as the cause of the so-called triple witching hour volatility. The programmes were blamed by some for Monday's drop.

The New York Stock Exchange told its members not to participate in programme trading until markets grew calmer.

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Arab press tempers approval of U.S. attack, fears military escalation

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Cautious approval from the Arab press for the U.S. attack on Iran's offshore oil rigs was muted on Tuesday by concern at the danger of all-out war between Iran and the United States.

But at least one newspaper suggested the U.S. response to missile attacks last week on tankers in Kuwaiti waters did not go far enough.

The Kuwait Times said Monday's attack on two Iranian oil platforms east of Bahrain "only looks a benign reprisal."

But it added: "It is a good thing that they are exercising restraint in their retaliatory tactics against the belligerent Iranians who aim to block commercial shipping."

In Egypt, where top government officials have pledged full support to Iraq in the war, the semi-official Al-Ahram was the only newspaper to comment on the U.S. attack. It said that unless the United Nations Security Council imposed its ceasefire resolution on the belligerents, then the world body would face a worse crisis.

"The escalation in the war between Iran and Iraq threatens with new, serious complications..."

"The fast spread of military operations (in the Gulf) might impose on the (Security) Council and the world at large a new complicated dilemma which is even more complicated than the present one," Al-Ahram said.

In Syria, where Iran draws its strongest support from the community of Arab states, the semi-official Al-Thawra declared the "perfidious" American attack underlined that Washington was not qualified to mediate in the Gulf or the Middle East.

It said: "The U.S. should consider the perils of drawing the world into a destructive confrontation, starting from the Gulf and spreading to the brink of a global war."

The ruling Baath Party newspaper Al-Baath in Damascus said: "U.S. aggression has proved Washington's partnership with

the Iraqi regime in its unjust war with Iran and reminds us of similar raids against Lebanon and Libya."

Kuwait's Al Rai Al Aam called the U.S. strike "considered and co-ordinated," saying it dealt with targets used to launch missile and gunboat attacks on merchant shipping.

"Iran plays with fire which inevitably turns against it and burns it. This is what we saw, and we hope it will not be repeated and will contain lessons to help understand and draw conclusions in the interests of Iran and the entire region."

The Dubai Gulf News said Iran had left no one in doubt that it bitterly opposes the American military presence in the Gulf. "In fact the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) countries, too, have said all along that they did not favour foreign power intervention in the Gulf."

But they recognised that foreign powers had been dragged in by the tanker war, the paper said.

"Last week's missile attacks, which are in violation of Kuwait's sovereignty, and also intended to provoke the U.S., have been followed by American military action but no one can say that such an escalation was not developing after Iran rejected the U.N.'s ceasefire call."

Khaleej Times, another Dubai-based English daily, urged Iran to "agree to a cessation of hostilities and prevent the Gulf from being turned into a sea of flame."

The paper called on the American people to consider "whether an escalation of the tension is necessary or serves their country's interests."

Bahrain's Arabic newspaper Al-Khaleej said the U.S. strike was "one of the facets of the dangerous escalation that the region now witnesses, threaten-

ing to run out of control."

It said Iran had an "historic responsibility" to the region and to its nation to accept the international peace bid to end its war with Iraq and "block the road to intervention of foreign forces... if it is sincere in wishing to do so."

Lebanon's Al-Anwar said: "From now on it would be hard to stop escalation of the situation... if (U.S. Defence Secretary) Casper Weinberger considers the case closed, Tehran sees that the whole thing has started."

The Communist Al-Nida in Beirut declared: "The attack against the two platforms comes in the context of military escalation practised by Washington... The savage American attack requires more awareness and serious confrontation through a unified Arab stand..."

Turkish newspapers splashed reports of the U.S. retaliation across front pages. The popular daily Gunaydin's headline read: "America into war", while the English-language Turkish Daily News said simply "retaliation."

In the left-leaning daily Kumburciye, the country's most serious paper, columnist Ergun Balci said: "The U.S. officially has now become one of the parties in the Gulf war. Washington has sided with Baghdad against Tehran. The U.S. has been on the Iraqi side for sometime but after yesterday's action this has now become official."

Columnist Mehmet Barlas of the Popular Liberal daily Gunes said: "The U.S. has been provoking Iran for some time... to seek an answer to the question of who is right and who is wrong in the Iran-Iraq conflict in our view is irrelevant."

"What the U.S. and the whole world should do today is preach caution and moderation to both sides."

NATO member Turkey is deeply concerned at the escalation in Gulf war tension, partly because of a growing Kurdish rebel insurgency in its south east region bordering Iran and Iraq.

Allies back American military action in Gulf

LONDON (Agencies) — While the Western allies in Europe supported Monday's U.S. attack on Iranian platforms in the Gulf, most countries also voiced concern over possible escalation of the military situation in the area.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher voiced strong support on Monday for the American military action in the Gulf.

Mrs. Thatcher told reporters in Dallas: "It was absolutely right, it was a measured response."

She said the U.S. operation had been directed "at targets which were monitoring United States and other shipping and which in fact were concerned in directing attacks at that shipping."

At a news conference in Luxembourg during a meeting of European Community ministers, Sir Geoffrey Howe was asked about statements by a senior Iranian official that the United States was now involved in a full-scale war.

"It would be profoundly undesirable and quite unjustified for Iran to react in that way," Sir Geoffrey said.

"We don't think that this action is escalatory. Action in self-defence against the prospect of further irresponsible Iranian attacks is entirely legitimate."

France expressed understanding of Monday's U.S. attack but called for a halt to the Gulf war.

The Foreign Ministry said in a statement: "The French authorities reaffirm their attachment to the freedom and security of navigation, and the right of all states to take action under international law and the United Nations charter to halt attacks such as that of Oct. 16" (when Iranian missiles hit a U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti ship).

Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Goria told the cabinet on Monday he was worried about increased tension in the Gulf, but said America's retaliation against Iran had been limited.

A statement issued after a cabinet meeting said Mr. Goria had been informed by the United States that it would take action against an Iranian target in the Gulf, but had not known beforehand that the action would involve an attack on an oil platform.

The Netherlands said on Monday it was deeply concerned that the United States had deemed it necessary to strike at Iran and urged fresh United Nations efforts to prevent a further escalation of the Gulf war.

Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans, commenting on the U.S. strike against Iran, said on Monday his country regretted the escalation of violence in the Gulf and would remain strictly neutral in the Iran-Iraq war.

Mr. Tindemans told Reuters that the action was especially regrettable in view of United Nations Gulf peace efforts.

West Germany expressed understanding on Monday for the U.S. strike but also said it supported United Nations efforts to end the Gulf war.

"West Germany voices its

understanding for the decision of the United States to exercise its right to self defence under article 51 of the United Nations Charter and to ensure the freedom of navigation by taking a limited action in the Gulf," government spokesman Friedhelm Ost said.

Greece said on Monday it was strongly concerned over an escalation of tension in the Gulf after the attack on the Iranian oil platform.

"The Greek government had expressed its concern in the past over the escalation of tension in the Gulf. At this crucial time the government is expressing its concern in stronger terms," government spokesman Yannis Roubatis said in a brief statement.

Japan's Foreign Ministry said it "understands the circumstances that have led the United States government to take these measures."

Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez said in Luxembourg, where he was attending a European Community meeting, the U.S. Gulf attack was "a self-defence measure compatible with international law on free navigation."

However, the Soviet News Agency TASS called it an unjustified "act of armed aggression."

A TASS commentary issued within hours of the attack linked it to the Iran-contra scandal, in which some U.S. administration representatives arranged secret arms sales to Iran and diverted some of the profits to rebels fighting the Nicaraguan government.

TASS said the covert operation sapped pro-American feelings in some Arab nations.

The Hungarian Communist Party daily Nepszabadsag on Tuesday said "...the growing naval presence of the United States and its allies has not alleviated tensions, and military operations have become increasingly brutal."

"The clashes... have heightened tension and escalation has assumed more dangerous proportions," Nepszabadsag said.

A commentator on the evening news on state-run Polish Television said, "our worst expectations have come true."

The commentator said two solutions to Gulf turmoil were "lying on the table" — acceptance of the U.N. Security Council ceasefire resolution or the Soviet proposal to withdraw all outside ships from the Gulf.

Algeria said on Monday it regretted the latest attacks in the Gulf by Iranian and United States forces.

A Foreign Ministry statement published by the official news agency APS said Algeria "strongly regrets the attack launched in Kuwaiti territorial waters, just as it vigorously regrets the armed action against Iranian oil installations."

Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi said in a statement on Monday, Libya stands beside Iran in the face of U.S. attacks in the Gulf.

U.S. Congress hails Gulf strike

WASHINGTON (R) — Congress generally cheered the U.S. strike at Iranian oil wells in the Gulf but may try on Tuesday to force President Reagan to give it a voice in policy on the tense waterway.

"Congress needs to be made a partner here, instead of ignored," said Senator Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, after Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger announced the navy strike at Iranian military platforms.

The Senate may vote on Tuesday on a bill by Sen. Mark Hatfield, an Oregon Republican, to try to force Mr. Reagan to invoke the War Powers Act which would give Congress a role in policy-making in the Gulf.

"We have provided a magnet in the Gulf for the fanaticism and the hatred of Iran toward the United States," Sen. Hatfield told reporters, saying the general approval of Monday's strike could appear to give "a tacit endorsement of war with Iran."

President Reagan told reporters: "No, we're not going to have a war with Iran. They're not that stupid."

Iranian leaders vowed retaliation for the U.S. Navy strike which destroyed a disputed oil platform which was being used as a radar station and base for small boat attacks on shipping about 120 miles east of Bahrain.

Four U.S. destroyers blasted the Iranian oil platform, named Rashtad, to pieces with about 1,000 five-inch shells in response to Friday's Iranian Silkworm missile attack on the U.S. flag Kuwait tanker Sea Isle City in Kuwaiti waters.

Navy special forces personnel followed up by raiding a second oil rig about five miles away after

they had noted boats taking off a number of people, a Pentagon spokesman said.

The navy broadcast warnings in Farsi and English that the Rashtad platform would be shelled within 20 minutes as the destroyers took station about five kilometres from the Rashtad platform.

Defence officials said some 20 to 30 Iranians manning the platform were seen to flee in a small craft before the firing started, and a navy search found no survivors in the water.

Mr. Weinberger told a news conference: "We consider this matter closed. We do not seek further confrontation with Iran, but we will be prepared to meet any escalation of military action by Iran with stronger countermeasures."

Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the Pentagon Joint Chiefs of Staff, said: "There are very limited things they can do to us. I think they're a little frustrated to find ways to genuinely hurt us but I suspect they will keep searching."

Mr. Weinberger said that in addition to launching attacks on merchant shipping, the oil platform had been a base for a U.S. military helicopter on Oct. 8, the same day that U.S. helicopters sank an Iranian gunboat and captured two other boats in the northern Gulf.

In Congress, Democrats and Republicans expressed support for the attack and praised it as an appropriate "measured response."

"The Ayatollah (Ruhollah Khomeini) asked for this, and he got it," said Senate Republican leader Robert Dole.

However, it did not ease congressional pressure for a greater

say in Mr. Reagan's policy of protecting American-flagged tankers in the Gulf.

The War Powers Act, passed to give Congress a larger role in war decisions, requires the president to report to Congress when U.S. forces are placed in hostilities or imminent hostilities. The president is supposed to include a section in the report that would trigger a withdrawal of U.S. troops within 60-90 days unless Congress votes otherwise.

All presidents have opposed the law since it was passed over President Richard Nixon's veto in 1973, arguing it is unconstitutional in limiting the chief executive's control of foreign policy.

Some in Congress expressed satisfaction that Mr. Reagan had briefed congressional leaders on Sunday night on the planned action.

The White House also promised to report to Congress within 48 hours on the incident, which House of Representatives minority leader Robert Michel said showed the president "is certainly within the spirit of the law if not the letter of the law."

Critics said Mr. Reagan's overall Gulf policy, especially his open-ended operation to provide U.S. flags and protection to 31 Kuwaiti tankers, had not been carefully thought out.

"The raid highlights the essential problem of this administration's policy in the Gulf," said Congressman Sam Gejdenson, a Connecticut Democrat.

"Because the policy has no clearly defined purpose, the administration had no plans for an effective response to an attack we should have anticipated. Instead it took three days to come up with the response, which reduced any effect it might have," he said.

Lebanese parliament speaker reelected

BEIRUT (AP) — Hussein Husseini, a Shi'ite Muslim, was re-elected speaker of Lebanon's unicameral parliament for a fourth one-year term Tuesday.

The election was carried out amidst heavy security measures in the vicinity of the parliament building on the "green line" which divides this capital city into embattled Muslim and Christian sectors.

Lebanese army regulars and red-beretted riot policemen sealed off all approaches, allowing only parliamentary deputies and authorised newsmen to enter the building. The restricted zone was also guarded by sharpshooters manning rooftop firing nests.

Mr. Husseini, a pro-Syrian politician, was the only candidate. An official statement said 51 of the 67 deputies present voted for him. One deputy abstained while 15 others cast white ballots.

Mr. Husseini, 50, was first elected speaker of the 99-seat house in October 1984. Under Lebanon's unwritten constitution the country's president is a Maronite Christian, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim and the speaker, or president, of the parliament a Shi'ite Muslim.

The 12-year-old civil war, which has been raging with varying intensity since 1975 and

which has resulted in the de facto sectarian partition of the country has prevented parliamentary elections. The house has renewed its four-year term three times since 1976.

As the speaker, Mr. Husseini will supervise the six-yearly election of Lebanon's president, which is made by the members of parliament and which is due next September.

Meantime schools throughout the country closed Tuesday as Lebanon's 27,000 teachers went on strike, demanding substantial pay increases.

Tehran keeps up threats

(Continued from page 1)

claim they have come to the region to protect peace and security and guarantee freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf, whereas we see that each day they perpetrate new acts in violation of peace and security," said Mr. Rafsanjani, who also is Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's personal representative on Iran's supreme defence council.

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said Mr. Rafsanjani expressed surprise that initially U.S. officials indicated they would not retaliate for the attacks because they occurred against Kuwaiti territory.

But "within 48 hours, they hit rigs in retaliation for the attack, apparently forgetting earlier statements," IRNA quoted him as saying.

He said the U.S. attack, "launched deep inside the sea, is a move which is neither consistent with the superpower character of the United States, nor with its alleged concern about peace and security, nor even with common sense."

Mr. Musavi wrapped up a three-day visit to Syria on Tuesday, and left for home after renewing the threat that Iran would retaliate for the U.S. attack.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 7111-14

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:50 Review of programmes
16:55 Waqiah Woodstock
17:30 Small Wonder
18:00 Arabic series
19:10 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:40 Arabic series
21:30 Cultural programme
22:15 Wrestling
23:00 News in Arabic
23:10 Wrestling contd.

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 "Change Eyes" — variety programme
19:00 News in French
19:15 Ajourdui, un en Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Sport Magazine
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Valerie
21:10 Horse
22:00 News in English
22:30 Dorothy
23:00 Comedy Series

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & parth on 95.4 KHz, SW

Tel: 7111-14

PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Men from the Ministry
11:30 Songs from Movies
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Readings
12:30 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 News Bulletin
14:30 Easy Listening
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favorites
17:00 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:30 Science Report
19:00 Music
19:30 News Desk
20:00 News Summary
21:00 Evening Show
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show Continued

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An art exhibition entitled "France in the 20th Century" at the French Cultural Centre (until Oct. 29).

* Paintings exhibition by Samira Jamal Badran at the British Council (until Oct. 22).

* An art exhibition by Mrs. Ivy Nasir at the American Centre (until Oct. 22).

* An exhibition of plastic arts by Akram Abdul Jabbar at the Petra Bank Gallery (until Oct. 22).

* Armageddon (video sur grand écran) at Jean Yane (1977) avec Alain Delon et Jan Yane

CINEMA

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Royal Cultural Centre — Tel. 6610267

American Centre — 644371

British Council — 641520

French Cultural Centre — 630478

Goethe Institute — 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre — 644203

Spanish Cultural Centre — 624049

Turkish Cultural Centre — 639777

Hava Arts Centre — 661816

Y.W.C.A. — 641793

Y.W.M.C.A. — 664251

Amman Municipal Library — 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library — 843555

MUSEUMS

* "Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Hava Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

* Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

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Deadline for filling vacant government posts extended

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has agreed to extend the present deadline for filling the vacant posts in the various ministries and government departments from Oct. 31 until the end of this year. Civil Service Commission (CSC) President Ibrahim Izzuddin said on Tuesday.

In an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Izzuddin said that the Prime Minister's decision was made in order to allow more time for all ministries and government departments to fill their vacancies, and to provide a chance for those seeking employment to take advantage of these opportunities.

The CSC president noted that the number of posts which have been created since the beginning of this year is around 8,000; 6,000 of them are filled by now. University graduates will fill 2,126 posts, while 2,350 jobs will be filled by community college graduates. The remaining posts will be taken by holders of general secondary certificates and by people who have not completed the secondary stage of education.

The Ministry of Education has the greatest number of appointments, as a total of 3,741 jobseekers have been nominated for the ministry's vacancies. Other ministries, government departments and public institutions account for 2,349 recruitments that have been approved by the CSC, Mr. Izzuddin said.

"Upon filling the vacancies, we have discovered that there was a great demand for university degree holders in the educational profession — a matter which has prompted us to make the arrangements necessary for post-poning conscription for some 350 graduates, Mr. Izzuddin noted.

He added that there is a need for graduates with majors in mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, library sciences and nursing. It was also discovered that there is still a need for community college graduates with a majors in Arabic language, Islamic studies, English, mathematics, social studies and science.

Mr. Izzuddin said that this year has shown a large surplus of university graduates with majors in engineering, medicine, pharmacy and administrative sciences, with the exception of accountancy.

Mr. Izzuddin added further that, as of Sept. 30, 30,687 people had applied for vacant posts in government departments and ministries.

Arab housing ministers condemn Iranian acts

TUNIS (Petra) — The Council of Arab Housing Ministers on Tuesday condemned Iranian aggression in civilian areas and called on Iran to accept United Nations Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for an end to the war and the establishment of a just peace in the region.

At the conclusion of their 6th session, the Arab housing ministers sent cables to King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and to the executive director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS), in which they condemned the Iranian violence against civilians.

Speaking on the conference's recommendations and decisions, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment and head of the Jordanian delegation to the meeting, Youssef Hamdan Al Jaber said that the council has decided to support the projects and programmes of the Holy Jerusalem Centre which is based in Amman.

The council also approved a recommendation for supporting activities and programmes of the Amman-based Regional Training Centre, which works in collaboration with the UNCHS in training specialists in the field of housing.

British comedy marks start of dinner theatre season

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — "The Kingfisher," a two-act real life comedy produced by famous British comedian-turned-producer Derek Nimmo promises theatre lovers a spectacular mis-en-scene and a witty show spiced with entertaining situations.

The play, which opened at the International Hotel playhouse on Tuesday, is written by the William Douglas Home, born in Edinburgh as the son of the thirteenth Earl of Home, and brother of former British prime minister, Alec Douglas Home.

"The Kingfisher" has been described by a number of British drama critics as one of Home's most wonderful and funny plays. "With his wit and superb sense of comedy, he is a one-man whirlwind, turning to theatres a constant supply of new materials," one critic writes.

The five-performance event, marks the opening of the dinner theatre season in Amman, which is organised by the Jordan Inter-continental Hotel in cooperation with British Airways. The three-member cast is the British Airways touring theatre group, and includes some of the world's top actors and actresses, some of them well-known to Jordanian television and film viewers.

Though the cast has changed over the years, the British Airways group has staged six successful plays at the hotel over the past four years, including "My Giddy Aunt," "There's a Girl in My Soup," and "How the Other Half Lives."

The group has already completed a tour of a number of Far Eastern countries, where they successfully staged their play "The Kingfisher." After they complete their stay in Amman, the troupe will perform in Cairo and other Arab capitals.

In a press conference held Tuesday to introduce the cast and technical crew of "The Kingfisher," the hotel's general manager, George Khawam, said the touring theatre's previous performance in Amman "have been very successful" in terms of both quality and audience numbers.

Mr. Khawam said the hotel has been sponsoring "performing art" as part of a mission to fulfil the cultural needs in the Jordanian community. He said the troupe's leading artists and producers are working to Jordanian, British and Arab audiences.

Starring in the play are the renowned husband and wife team of Googie Withers (British) and John McCallum (Australian), and Gordon Jackson (Scottish), known to Jordanians for his role as butter in the successful television series "Upstairs, Downstairs."

Googie is the star of over 30 films, including "The Loves of Joanna Godden" (in which she first met John McCallum), "It Always Rains on Sunday," and "On Approval." She has also appeared in many plays in London's West End, including "Private Lives," "Winter Journey," and "The Deep Blue Sea." Of her many television parts, she is recognised perhaps most of all, for her outstanding performance as the prison governor in "Within These Walls."

McCallum has also appeared in many films including "Miranda," "Valley of Eagles," and "The Woman in Question." His London West End appearances include, "Roar like a Dove," "View Over the Park" and "The Constant Wife." He recently toured England in "The Skin Game," "The Cherry Orchard" and "Dandy Dick." Together with his wife Googie, they enjoyed considerable success in a European tour of "The School for Scandal."

Gordon, whose worldwide fame is not only due to his role in the television series "Upstairs, Downstairs," is also recognised for his role on the internationally acclaimed television series, "The Professionals." Apart from this numerous West End appearances, there is hardly a British film of consequence in which Gordon has not appeared. They number over 60 and include, "Mutiny on the Bounty," "Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines," "Operation Crossbow," "Lawrence of Arabia," "Hamlet," "Scrooge," "Kidnapped" and "The Masks of Death."

Michael Mills, the director of the play began his career in television as a producer-director in 1947, making him the oldest living TV producer. After pioneering the early days of live television, he began to specialise in comedy. For five years he was the head of comedy at BBC and was responsible for such shows as "Dad's Army," "The Goodies," and "Liver Birds," among many others. Now a freelance producer-director, he has recently made "Chance in a Million," "Get Some In," and "Tom, Dick and Harriet."

Health Ministry reports 12 cases of AIDS in Jordan

By Abdullah Nsour
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Ministry of Health has reported the recent discovery of 12 cases of AIDS in Jordan. Eight of the cases are Jordanians; the rest have left the country.

A report by a Health Ministry committee said that of the eight cases among Jordanians, two were found to have contracted the disease through blood transfusion abroad, and another two contracted it while living in the United States and West Germany.

There were two cases among foreigners: one from Chile and another from Brazil, both of whom have left the country. In addition, there were two cases which resulted in deaths: one from Aleppo, Syria; and another, a Jordanian who died in Qatar, the report noted.

The report, however, emphasised that all precautionary measures were taken to stop any spread of the disease in Jordan. These measures include: screening all types of vaccines and blood plasma coming into the country, testing all types of blood before transfusion processes and issuing booklets and pamphlets providing the public with information on how to protect themselves from AIDS, specially those travelling to foreign countries.

The report said that a special standing committee has been formed to supervise precautionary measures against AIDS. This committee is comprised of representatives from the Health Ministry, the Royal Medical Services, the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Jordan and the Jordanian Medical Association.

In June, the Health Ministry reported the discovery of two AIDS cases, one of which was fatal. Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh said, at the time, that both victims had contracted the illness through blood transfusions abroad. He said that the World Health Organisation had been informed about the two cases.

Dr. Hamzeh on Monday left for Paris to take part in an international conference on AIDS, which will open during the week. The minister said he will submit a working paper on this subject covering proposals for increasing public awareness of AIDS and for stopping the spread of the disease.

Dr. Hamzeh was appointed chairman of an Arab committee to the conference during a meeting of the Council of Arab Health Ministers held in Baghdad early this month.

A symposium on AIDS will be held in Amman today, during which several specialists from the University of Jordan will deliver speeches outlining the dangers of the disease and ways to protect against it.

Arab social affairs ministers call for commitment to development fund

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaleel Haj Hassan has returned from Tunis, where he chaired meetings of the executive bureau of the Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers.

In an arrival statement made on Monday, Mr. Haj Hassan said that the conferees stressed the need for maintaining the Arab Fund for Social Development and called on the member states who have not as yet honoured their financial commitments to the fund to do so immediately, in order to enable the fund to fulfil its objectives in joint Arab social work.

They also called for supplying technical aid and training to social workers and for providing assistance to member states when natural disasters strike.

The executive bureau also approved the budget and final estimated accounts for the current fiscal year and the Arab Fund for Social Development budget for 1988. Mr. Haj Hassan added that the bureau has allocated \$50,000 to support traditional Jordanian industries and handicrafts, which help to preserve Jordan's heritage, in addition to creating new job opportunities for families and individuals.

The minister said further that the participants recommended the exchange of visits by social work specialists and greater support for the demographic research unit at the council's general secretariat.

The demographic unit aims to prepare integrated studies on immigration in the Arab World, to identify the volume of immigration and its implications for the family and society.

Later, on Tuesday, Mr. Haj Hassan conferred with Egypt's ambassador to Jordan, Ihab Wahbe on cooperation in the field of labour. The meeting was attended by the labour adviser at the Egyptian embassy.

British army chief tours military sites

AMMAN (Petra) — Chief of General Staff of British Armed Forces General Sir Nigel Bagnall on Tuesday visited the Special Forces headquarters, where he was received by the commander of the forces and a number of senior officers.

Gen. Bagnall listened to a briefing by the commander, watched a show of the weapons used by the forces and viewed a practical demonstration of a parachute landing. He also watched field demonstration exercises, including jumping from towers and free jumping.

In addition, he reviewed various military exercises, the kwan doo performances and landing from helicopters.

Gen. Bagnall then toured the Al Hussein military workshops and was briefed on their operations. Later, he visited a military airbase.

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Samira Badran paints dark, turbulent picture of life tempered with hope

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Reading through my notes made spontaneously when I stood alone with the work of Samira Badran on exhibition at the British Council this week, I find phrases like "end of the world colours," "the dark, turbulent clouds of a nuclear disaster," "total destruction" and "murderous sky" lacing together the random thoughts the paintings inspired. Frightening phrases and, certainly, the paintings are disturbing and unsettling; but, more importantly, they are also exciting and energising.

The exhibition is not one you can pass through casually. A quick glance will reveal nothing. The paintings, like old black and white movies, give the impression that there's much going on in the murky depths that you can't quite see. Slowly, with time and reflection, objects emerge, scenes unravel and some sense is conferred onto the confusion of swirling colours and shapes.

What does emerge, linking each painting with the next to form a strong, continuous theme, are marvellous machines. Not familiar machines, but amazing contraptions of tubes, wheels, cogs and spikes that gleam in gold or glow with the blue-green sheen of steel. These machines and the complementary structures made up of the skeleton parts of buildings — scaffolding, rib-like braces that span ever-widening arches and strong steel girders — which surround them are highly re-

JPMC to offer JD 10m worth of shares to public

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) plans to offer the public a total of 10 million shares, worth JD 10 million, for the purpose of increasing the company's capital. The shares will be available in the market in November, according to a JPMC spokesman.

The announcement was made following a meeting of the JPMC executive committee chaired by Wasef Azar, the company's managing director.

The announcement also said that feasibility studies for the Shidiya mines in southern Jordan have been completed, and that production on an experimental basis will begin at these sites by the middle of 1988. At the meeting, a general review of the expected phosphate production at the Shidiya mines was made.

Mr. Azar noted that the World Bank will grant JPMC a \$31 million loan to partially finance the \$71 million first phase of the project.

According to Mr. Azar, the Shidiya mines will be producing up to 800,000 tonnes a year, starting in late 1988. He added that further World Bank support was expected for the second phase, which will bring the project's total cost to \$200 million.

At present, Jordan mines phosphate from Al Hass and Al Abiad mines with limited amounts from the Russeifa mine near Amman. But, according to the JPMC plan, the Shidiya mines east of Maan will become the main producing mines.

Last month, the JPMC announced that it hopes to export some 5.7 million tonnes of phosphate to Asian and European countries via Aqaba port by the end of 1987, which would mark an increase from the 5.2 million tonnes which were exported in 1986.

being generated from the blast, it is this light that dominates; it is this light that casts the shadows, that draws the eye and the heart. Other symbols of hope fill Badran's work. There are the ladders reaching skywards amidst the inferno, and the beautifully rendered cloth bandages laid in neat piles like Christ's shroud after the Resurrection.

The profundity of Badran's paintings, and their ability to intrigue and stimulate, is augmented by the way she imbues her work with a restless, pulsating energy. The ebb and flow of the paint itself gives greater definition to the depths she creates, as do the dramatic contrasts of light and shade.

Ranging from almost totally abstract to more accessible images, like the particularly attractive "Forgotten Museum" with its dark interior revealing the ancient Egyptian gods, to the trio of remarkable ink and watercolour drawings of huge oil rig-like structures beached like gigantic whales upon the shore, Badran's scope is wide but never disjointed. The large unframed canvases and those fashioned after narrow, arched windows would have pleased the Futurists who wanted to do away with "the small square of life artificially compressed." But they wouldn't have liked the white frames that so limit the smaller works, which so restrict the imagination in its effort to flow out of the paintings themselves and into the areas at which Badran only hints.

The exhibition runs until Oct. 22.

Crown Prince stresses improvement of railways as aspect of development

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said on Tuesday that railways form the backbone of overland transportation in the majority of nations due to their relatively low operational costs and high standards of safety. Prince Hassan urged Third World and Arab countries to develop their railway systems, because these networks have beneficial effects on economic and social development.

The Crown Prince's speech was delivered on his behalf by Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhlan at the opening session of a five-day symposium on railways held at the Plaza Hotel.

Prince Hassan said that Third World nations should address modern developments in railway transportation and seek to benefit from advanced nations' expertise in this field.

Railways provide a proper solution to the chronic problem of transport in many countries since they provide cheap means of transportation in all types of weather conditions and are known for their high degree of safety. Prince Hassan noted. Despite the efficiency of this method of transport, many Arab countries are still lagging behind in developing their rail networks, and are still unaware of modern technological advancements in the field, the Crown Prince added.

He said that Jordan looks forward to the day when Arab countries will be connected by modern rail networks, operating with high levels of efficiency by skilled technicians from the Arab World.

Promoting railway networks means boosting economic and social development in Arab countries, Prince Hassan pointed out. At present, the Crown Prince stressed that nations are in a race against time to develop modern means of transport, with particular attention devoted to the development of railways, which form the vital economic artery for many countries. As a means of connection, railways also play a major role in strengthening cultural relations among nations.

Following the Crown Prince's speech, Murhaf Al Sabouni, secretary-general of the Arab Railway Federation (ARF) addressed the session. He outlined the federation's achievements over the years, as well as the implementation of recommendations passed by the ARF meetings in Tunis and Damascus.

Mr. Sabouni also referred to the importance of railways for economic and social sectors in the Arab World, and called on Arab governments to modernise their existing networks, in addition to laying new tracks.

Also speaking at the opening session was Abdullah Haroun Al Jazi, chairman of the ARF board of directors. Dr. Jazi reviewed the federation's accomplishments since its establishment in 1979 and pointed to training courses that have been organised for Arab personnel employed on Arab railway systems. The ARF, he said, seeks to set up a pan-Arab institute on railways and a plant for manufacturing components used in the railway industry.

The symposium, attended by delegates from 12 countries, will discuss the unification of railway systems in the Arab region, the development of railways in Europe and the proper employment of railway transportation. Also on the agenda is the subject of international regulations governing railway communications, railway transportation between Europe and the Middle East, the railway line linking Damascus with Amman and Saudi Arabia and scientific research in railway affairs.

Specialists taking part in the symposium came from Greece, France, India, Britain, Switzerland, Italy, Poland, Belgium, East Germany, West Germany, Iraq and Syria, in addition to Jordan. While the symposium takes place, working sessions will be held to discuss subjects, such as protecting the environment and conserving energy.

Symposium on Jordan Valley reviews priorities for research in region

IRBID (J.T.) — A symposium at Yarmouk University entitled "Research Priorities in the Jordan Valley" ended with the participants recommending the establishment of committees to prepare for an international conference on the Jordan Valley which would discuss ways to salvage antiquities found in the region.

The symposium, organised by the Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, also recommended that studies be conducted on the impact of development schemes on the environment.

Participants in the symposium discussed a number of research papers dealing with topics such as: the effects of the construction of housing units on social and economic life in the valley, the influence of insecticides on the local population and their food, irrigation projects, fertilisers, sanitation and hygiene, soil, economic activities and diseases resulting from demographic changes.

The participants recommended the formation of a committee to supervise studies on the Jordan Valley. This committee should include the president of the Jordan Valley Authority, the director of the Department of Antiquities, the director of the Land and Survey Department, and representatives from a number of ministries, the participants noted.

This committee, the recommendations said, should set up a museum in the Jordan Valley to exhibit various artefacts and antiquities, with the goal of focusing light on the anthropological and demographic life of the valley region through history.

The organisers from Yarmouk University had been leading a number of projects, field studies, excavations and surveys at a number of sites in the Jordan Valley, including the Deir Alla excavations, in cooperation with the Institute of Antiquities of Leiden University in Holland, the French National Research Centre, and Tubingen University in West Germany.

The institute has been involved, as well, in an archaeological survey covering the Jordan Valley and an anthropological and ethnographic study of the framework of the social history of the region.

Furthermore, Yarmouk University has established a research centre at Deir Alla with the cooperation of the Institute of Antiquities of Leiden University.

The participants in the symposium include representatives from various government and private organisations, in addition to professors from Jordanian universities and research centres.

King meets Vorontsov and Shultz in London

(Continued from page 1)

ing an international peace conference on the Middle East under U.N. auspices and attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Middle East peace efforts are expected to figure high in the Shultz-Shevardnadze talks in Moscow.

During his visit to the Middle East which included Egypt, Jordan and Syria, Mr. Vorontsov said his talks with the region's leaders were aimed at gathering Arab views on Mideast peace efforts and conveying them to the Soviet leadership prior to the Shultz-Shevardnadze meeting.

Also on Tuesday, the King held a second round of talks with Mr. Shultz with whom he had a meeting late Monday, immediately after the U.S. secretary of state arrived in London from the Middle East after talks with Israeli, Saudi and Egyptian leaders.

Petra said the King and Mr. Shultz reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East and the Gulf and prospects for convening the proposed international conference on Arab-Israeli peace.

On the Gulf war, the King and Mr. Shultz also agreed on the need to implement in full Resolution 598, Petra reported.

The King and Mr. Shultz discussed the U.S. secretary's planned talks with Mr. Shevardnadze. Mr. Shultz left London later in the day for Helsinki en route to Moscow.

The King's meetings with Mr. Vorontsov and Mr. Shultz were attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri. Mr. Rifai arrived in London on Monday from Morocco after delivering His Majesty's formal invitation to King Hassan II of Morocco to attend the extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Amman on Nov. 8.

Regent visits flood-hit areas

(Continued from page 1)

the area.

The report should be presented in 10 days, the Regent said.

The Crown Prince also called for conducting the necessary population surveys and for identifying reasons for the losses.

The Crown Prince emphasised the need for laying proper foundations for joint work among all parties involved in the issue and for coordination among the various social funds.

The Regent called on the concerned social funds to identify the low-income category — the most hit by consequences of floods and natural disasters — so that they can work out the appropriate method for responding to future emergencies.

The Regent also stressed the need for gaining accurate and well-studied information on the conditions of the people affected by the floods and identify the people actually eligible for aid — mainly small-scale farmers.

Prince Hassan started the visit to the Jordan Valley with a tour of vegetable and fruit farmlands and groves. He was briefed on the situation by farmers as well as officials on the volume of losses and reasons for such losses.

The Regent was accompanied by Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud.

Shamir denies 'softening' stand

(Continued from page 1)

change in the official framework of the international conference as endorsed by the international conference," Mr. Khatib told the French news agency, AFP. He said a lasting and just peace would be reached only through the official framework of the international conference.

In a related development, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' closest aide predicted on Tuesday that Mr. Shamir would accept an international peace conference if Moscow allowed Soviet Jews freedom to emigrate.

"If there is a significant change on the Jewish problem, there will not be a government in Israel that could say no to involvement in the peace process..." the foreign minister director general, Yossi Beilin, said.

East Germany backs talks

(Continued from page 1)

"Both are highly industrialised, yet one follows a socialist ideology and is under the Warsaw Pact treaty, while the other is a capitalist system and is under NATO. It is difficult to overcome these differences and the two states are a reality," he said.

Despite the differences, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and East German leader Erich Honecker were able to discuss common subjects during the first official visit Mr. Honecker paid to West Germany earlier this month, he said. "The purpose of the visit was not to discuss differences, but common subjects," said Mr. Neumann.

Mr. Neumann, who was to leave for Lebanon today, held talks with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and other senior officials during his stay in Amman. During the talks, he voiced his country's understanding of the Arab position on the political front and described Jordan's stand as "realistic and balanced."

Mr. Neumann also reiterated his country's support for efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war and to find an Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

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Caught in between the jaws

ALMOST EIGHT years and thousands of deaths after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, there appears to be concrete signs of movement towards a negotiated settlement to the problem, which has been and remains to be a major obstacle to a broad U.S.-Soviet agreement on endeavours towards Arab-Israeli peace and solving other "regional" conflicts in the Middle East. For the first time, a peace plan which seems to enjoy the endorsement of the Soviet Union, China, Pakistan, the Afghan government and Western countries that back the rebel forces has been crystallised. One can also find added comfort in the fact that oil magnate Armand Hammer, who wields considerable influence in Moscow as well as Washington, is spearheading the crusade for peace. It is also evident that, despite the official silence in Washington, the Hammer plan does enjoy tacit approval from the Reagan administration.

Within the Afghan scene, the Kabul leadership is striving to set a political atmosphere conducive to peace through rearranging party ranks and government responsibilities. The Pakistan-based rebel groups have designated a joint spokesman and negotiator for peace talks. On the surface, everything seems to be set for an eventual solution to the Afghan problem through direct negotiations pitting all parties involved in the conflict; and the distinct impression is that Hammer would be successful in his one-man crusade.

However, it is the long-term prospects of any settlement to the Afghan problem that could undermine the peace chances. While Washington and the West would insist on what they see as Afghan people exercising their democratic rights, Moscow would not allow any dilution of its influence in Kabul. In the final analysis, a superpower loggerhead over this issue and further prolongation of the conflict seem inevitable. At the same time, the situation in the Gulf has added an urgency to efforts to settle the problem, if only because of Afghanistan's proximity to the Gulf and its common borders with Iran. Superpower haggling over Afghanistan will not work in the interests of either Washington or Moscow if they are sincere in their efforts to seek Iran-Iraq peace, and Soviet and American strategists would be well-advised to accept the fact. Above all, the superpowers should also realise that it is high time they gave realistic consideration to the almost decade-old suffering of the Afghan people, who are caught in between the jaws of the Moscow-Washington race for political and military supremacy.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jordan reaffirms position

MINISTER of Information Mohammad Al Khatib announced that Jordan continues to adhere to the idea of an international peace conference and refuses any attempt by any party to find any substitute for that conference in any form. The statement followed reports from occupied Palestine that the United States was trying to empty the idea of this conference from its meaning and return all efforts towards achieving a settlement to square one. In his comment on the reports the minister said that Jordan considers the international conference as the most suitable forum where a just and durable peace can be worked out, and therefore, it refuses any attempt to change this formula. Jordan, the minister said, also refuses suggestions about giving the Soviet Union a limited role while giving the United States and Israel a free hand in the affair. As we have said before, Shultz's visit to the Middle East would not yield any fruitful result and that the visit would expose for all people the real position of the United States vis-a-vis the Middle East issue. It is clear that Washington still adheres to the idea that the security or the destruction of the Middle East is the responsibility of the United States and that of Israel, and that no other parties should have any say in its affairs. Washington also continues to back Israel's aggression and condones its intransigence and refusal to implement Security Council resolutions that are bound to establish peace in this region. For this reason we attached no hopes to Shultz's visit which, more than any time in the past, has provided evidence that the U.S. and Israel hold identical views which continue to impede the establishment of a just and peaceful settlement.

Al Dustour: Shultz fails

AS was expected, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's tour of the Middle East yielded no result, and did not bring about a change in Israel's intransigent position and its refusal of the international conference for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict. In fact, Shultz himself had not expected a better result from his recent tour and his talks with Israeli leaders nor had he contemplated the idea that a chance ever existed for giving a little momentum for reaching a settlement in the foreseeable future. The results of his visit came as no surprise to anyone living inside or outside the Middle East region. There is no doubt that America's volatile attitude and infirm position as to the idea of an international peace conference is responsible for this expected result. To add to this, one should also remember statements made by Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in which he vigorously reiterated Israel's total rejection of the conference. Therefore, Shultz's visit to the Middle East was no more than one stage in his trip to Moscow, and a reminder of how little importance the United States gives to this region's problems. It is a reminder to all about the many opportunities that had been wasted for arriving at a settlement, due to Washington's hesitation and lack of will, and its response to Israel's pressures. Shultz's visit underlined a fact that the United States has no more interest in discussing ways for solving the Middle East problem and helping the Arabs to regain their rights in their homeland.

Superpowers poised before historic disarmament accord

By Robert Evans
Reuters

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union and the United States stand poised this week to agree on the first disarmament treaty of the nuclear age and both appear to recognise they face an historic choice.

The crunch will come when Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz meet in Moscow on Thursday to decide whether an accord banning hundreds of missiles from Europe and Asia is ready for signing.

If signature is delayed, further steps towards much wider agreements could falter and the disarmament process grind to a halt while the United States chooses

the president to lead it into the 1990s.

Commenting on the Moscow meeting, the Communist Party newspaper Pravda cited U.S. press suggestions that the two powers stood on the threshold of a new detente era far more promising for halting the arms race than in the past.

"It is the duty of both our countries to justify those hopes," Pravda said.

Provisional agreement on a treaty to dismantle intermediate range nuclear weapons (INF) already on launch pads was reached when Shevardnadze and Shultz met in Washington last month.

They agreed that once the long-negotiated accord was ready, it would be signed at a

new summit between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. president Ronald Reagan, probably in Washington before the end of the year.

Although an INF agreement would affect only some four per cent of the superpowers' nuclear arsenals, covering rocketry with ranges of from 500 to 2000 kilometres, it would be the first treaty under which Moscow and Washington agreed to cut existing weapons.

The accord would bring destruction by the Soviet Union of nearly 1,435 warheads and 683 missiles including the medium-range SS20s. Moscow introduced these during the 1970s and the United States moved countering rocketry into Europe.

On the Western side, the Un-

ited States would dismantle 348 cruise and Pershing-2 missiles, carrying only one warhead each. Since the Washington talks, there have been increasing signs that the two sides feel the accord could also provide decisive impetus towards a major agreement on strategic weapons.

The Soviet Union is insisting it remains resolutely opposed to Reagan's "Star Wars" strategic defence initiative (SDI) but has recently shifted emphasis towards seeking a possible compromise allowing part of the programme to proceed.

U.S. officials, while saying Reagan will not accept limitations on SDI, suggest an agreement if negotiated promptly after an INF treaty, could pass through Congress before the presidential elec-

tions in November next year.

Ahead of the Shultz-Shevardnadze talks, which are due to continue into next Friday, both sides are expressing caution and suggesting that a final INF text may not be complete before the secretary of state arrives in Moscow.

Diplomats close to the negotiations in Geneva say intensive discussions are under way with the two teams meeting several times a day in a bid to finalise the text, understood to contain tough verification measures.

Pravda said that three or four clauses of the treaty, expected to contain a total of 16 or 18 clauses, were still open. "It is very important to fix clearly the obligations of both sides relating to the strict observation of the treaty's provi-

sions," the Communist Party organ's commentator Arkady Maslennikov said.

We are insisting on closing any loopholes for retaining the missile weaponry under discussion, and exclude the possibility of its being transferred to other countries," he said.

This was a clear reference to a continuing controversy over U.S.-owned warheads on 72 West German Pershing-1A missiles, which have a range of up to 740 kilometres.

Diplomatic analysts in Moscow say it seems unlikely the two would allow the issue to prevent agreement on the treaty in the atmosphere of increasing goodwill generated by the outline accord in Washington.

West German Greens face bitter internal struggle

By Bjorn Edlund
Reuters

BONN — Bitter public debates have exposed a deep split in West Germany's Greens, for nearly 10 years a rallying force for feminists, pacifists, radical activists and opponents of nuclear energy.

Their loose platform of leftist causes and environmental concerns has brought some success, with Greens elected to the federal and several state parliaments.

But fundamentalist Greens, or *Fundis*, are now pitted against self-styled realists, or *Reals*, in a struggle for control of the party which threatens to bring about its destruction.

"We are in a crisis and our differences on key issues of substance have become increasingly evident," said Otto Schily, one of 40 Green members of the federal parliament.

Petra Kelly, a party founder and perhaps its best-known legislator, said she was "tired and sad because the shine has been lost." The *Fundis* brand parliamentary work treason against their goal of total democracy, while the *Reals* seek alliances with West Germany's main opposition party, the Social Democrats (SPD), to secure lasting influence.

Schily, a leading *Real*, says the internal struggle is causing widespread concern in the Greens' local organisations that the movement could fall apart and disappear.

"There's fear among some that the whole thing will fail," Schily told Reuters. "It would be a great loss for West Germany if that happened."

The demand by the *Fundis* that West Germany leave NATO and declare itself neutral is seen as naive by the *Reals* who lately admit that an immediate scrapping of nuclear power would be impractical.

Reals in West Berlin's Greens Party, the Alternative List, accuse the city's *Fundis* of being stooges of the ruling Communist Party in East Germany.

Kelly says a hard-line leftist women's bloc in the Greens is aggravating the problem by branding men in the party. She foresees a split into a "liberal streamlined Green Party" and a dogmatic leftist group.

Jutta Dittfurth, a leading *Fundi* member of parliament, caused fresh controversy by saying repressive traits in West German society were responsible for a wave of urban terrorism in the 1970s.

Her statement struck a raw nerve among the Greens, born out of the 1960s leftist student movement, the peace lobby in the 1970s and a strong nationwide campaign against nuclear power.

Until recently, the Greens looked set to become a permanent force in West German politics, with seats in both the federal and several state parliaments.

"The Greens remain a protest movement and have not made the transition to a real political party," said Karl-Heinz Niclaus, a political scientist at Bonn University.

"They may be a passing phenomenon," Niclaus told Reuters.

The Greens saw their political stock plummet in 1987 after years of successes built a nationwide following of between seven and nine per cent of the electorate.

An SPD-Green government in the state of Hesse ended in humiliation last April, toppled by a coalition of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's ruling Christian Democrats and the Liberal Free Democrats.

Last month the Greens, Europe's largest environmental group, failed to garner the five per cent vote needed to win state parliamentary seats in Schleswig-Holstein.

Dominated by the *Fundis*, the Greens in the northern state refused to pledge parliamentary backing for the SPD.

Experts said this drove many

potential Greens voters to the SPD, so as not to "waste" their vote. The SPD candidate Bjorn Engholm had embraced most of the Greens' demands.

The national news magazine, *Der Spiegel*, said of the Greens' raging internal feud: "With the determination of lemmings, the Greens have plunged themselves into a deep crisis of existence."

Engholm showed how the established parties, the CDU, the FDP and the SPD, have adopted environmentalist policies to win over potential Greens supporters.

The SPD's willingness to enter into experiments with the Greens disappeared overnight when Hans-Jochen Vogel, a former justice minister, last June replaced former chancellor Willy Brandt as SPD chairman.

SPD strategists say that a SPD-Green pact mooted before last January's national elections was partly to blame for SPD's worst poll losses in three decades. Many working class voters were scared off, they said.

Top SPD member of parliament Peter Glotz summed up the party's new distance from the Greens in a recent newspaper article.

"The Greens are making themselves redundant. They brought up the issue of environmental protection, now they are neutralising themselves," Glotz wrote in the *Bild*.

Ironically, Schily said, the Green's decay was largely brought about by the possible fulfilment of one of their key demands — the withdrawal of NATO nuclear missiles from West Germany under an East-West accord on intermediate-range nuclear forces.

"The unifying element was one of rejection, rejection of the Pershing and cruise missiles," Schily said. "Nothing is seen to have taken the place of that rejection."

She said the Greens had one last hope — its members.

"Pressure from the local groups could force the national leadership to overcome the profound schism and start tackling political work," Schily said. "We are running out of time."

But Niclaus said that even if the Greens tore themselves apart, their legacy would survive.

"They have had a considerable effect on German politics, especially in bringing environmental questions into party programmes," he said. "That won't go away, even if they do."

Commonwealth marks time on action against S. Africa

By Peter Gregson
Reuters

VANCOUVER — After two years of calling on the world to take action against South Africa, the Commonwealth took stock of what it had achieved this week and found itself back at square one.

The 48-nation Commonwealth's Vancouver summit produced a 2,000-word statement which its leaders, with the isolated exception of Britain, praised as a firm step along the road to ending apartheid.

Zimbabwe President Kenneth Kaunda called it a powerful message to Pretoria, adding: "We are calling for more action."

But British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who alone objected to four sections of the

29-point document advocating further, unspecified sanctions against Pretoria, dissented.

"They're making a great deal of noise. They said they wanted more sanctions. Just tell me one extra sanction they're going to put on. There isn't one," Thatcher said.

Her voice of dissent echoes loudly since Britain's trade with South Africa exceeds the total South African trade of the other 47 Commonwealth members, including Australia and Canada.

The Commonwealth adopted sanctions as its chosen vehicle to bring further changes out of President P.W. Botha's government at its last summit in Nassau two years ago.

There Thatcher's now-entrenched position that sanctions, diplomatic shorthand for punitive economic measures, do not work

was sharply revealed.

In a grudging concession to the Commonwealth tradition of decision by consensus, she bugged slightly, however, to go along with a minor series of measures to pinch Pretoria, such as a ban on loans and oil sales, an agreement to meet again to consider stronger action if those measures had no effect and a mission to South Africa by a group of "eminent persons."

But the split between Britain and her former colonies that began in Nassau grew into a rift at the review meeting in London a year later.

There Thatcher flatly refused to accept further wide-ranging measures, including cutting air links and banning imports of South African agricultural produce.

Britain, instead, said it would

only implement whatever measures were adopted by the European Community and a voluntary ban on new investment in and the promotion of tourism to South Africa.

It was a stance designed to bring head-on confrontation in Vancouver, and it did.

But for those states who revile Britain for being in bed with apartheid through its \$2.5 billion annual trade, apartheid and economic sanctions are not the predominant international issues they were a year ago.

South Africa's media gag has kept it out of the headlines this year. The black township rebellion seen by millions around the world on television, though it raised international awareness of the racial confrontation in that country, has been all but crushed.

U.S.-Bonn rift raises spectre of Europe's economic isolation

By Eric Hall
Reuters

TOKYO — Beneath a weekend rift between Washington and Bonn over world economic policy lies the dire spectre of West European economic isolation from the United States and Japan, analysts say.

The markets are still wondering how best to interpret U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker's assertion on Sunday that West German moves to raise interest rates were not in the spirit of the Louvre accord.

At February's Louvre meeting in Paris between the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Canada, and Italy, the Bonn and Tokyo governments agreed to stimulate their economies to boost world economic growth. All the nations agreed to keep currencies stable.

An apparent weakening in the willingness of major industrialised nations to present a united front has severely shaken the confidence of world financial markets.

And if the economic powers cannot agree economic policy coordination, not only the markets will suffer, analysts say.

"There is a considerable geopolitical threat here," said visiting U.S. economist Albert M. Wojniak, managing director of the First Boston Corporation.

Wojniak believes Europe, under a West German lead, could move towards greater economic isolation from its present part-

ners, feeding off internal markets and trade with Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

At the heart of the broader political consideration is Japan's security reliance on the United States, which underpins Tokyo and Washington's economic relationship even at the worst periods of bickering over trade and monetary relations.

West German economic policy and the mighty West German mark, both defended and nurtured by the cautious and conservative Bundesbank, have so far dominated European economic policy.

Voices from the European Community (EC) in Brussels are calling for change.

They see the answer in broader, closer ties between Japan and the community to even out the distorted U.S.-EC-Japan triangle.

"The EC considers the strengthening of every tie, on every level, with Japan to be very fundamental," said EC ambassador to Japan Andreas van Aert.

EC President Jacques Delors has long advised this. "If we really want to have a monetary system that is less unstable, less erratic, if we really want to help countries with problems of debt, world responsibilities have to be shared by the U.S., Japan and Europe," he said over a year ago.

French Finance Minister Edouard Balladur on Monday came down unequivocally on the side of unity. "I firmly desire a faithful and firm adherence by all the major industrial countries to

the Louvre accords, in both their letter and spirit," he said.

"Some say Louvre still exists, some say it does not," said Yoshiko Okabe, senior currency manager at Sumitomo Bank.

Bank of Japan officials who attended the latest meetings on the pact believe Baker does not

want to shake the accord. Japan has been holding official yen interest rates down for political reasons.

"Once Japan was the target, now the target has shifted to West Germany," said Susumu Takekoshi, chief economist at Industrial Bank of Japan.

LETTERS

IQ puzzle

To the Editor:

KNOWING that most people today have lots of worries and problems on their backs, I thought I'd undertake the task of entertaining them with a true story I've just gone through. On the surface it will surely look funny, but if one delves into the depths of the matter, one will shake one's head in amazement at unmentionable feelings and thoughts pass involuntarily through.

I usually park my car at the First Circle, right outside the Diplomat Cafe and other shops around. Today there was a parking ticket on the windshield. Strange, I thought, since there isn't a NO PARKING sign anywhere about. As I read the ticket, I was shocked at my own "lack of intelligence." The car was parked with its headlights facing the street and its taillights facing the sidewalk. What seemed like a decent way to park (and easy to pull out at the 2:00 p.m. rush) was caught by a traffic warden as "parking against the direction of traffic." Anybody, since when is there a "direction of traffic" on the circumference of a circular parking area? A place to park is just that — and any violations should be posted nearby (however ridiculous they might look, like in this case).

I can only wonder at my IQ level as I desperately flip through the driving laws' book to find such a violation.

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Iraq's general census — a timely assessment

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

BAGHDAD — The first Iraqi census in 10 years showed a 35 per cent increase of population, an increase Iraqi officials view as favourable.

Sources on the committee for the population general census noted that marshalling the country's manpower resources in agriculture and industry is a priority in Iraq. "The country encourages increasing the family size, and Iraq has the capacity to hold a lot more people than it presently has," said one source who requested anonymity.

The increase of inhabitants during the past ten years is the most significant in Iraq's history. The recent census put the population in Iraq at 16,278,516 compared to 12,000,437 inhabitants in 1977. Previous censuses have recorded 8,977,000 inhabitants in 1965, 6,340,000 in 1957, 4,816,000 in 1947, 3,380,000 in 1934, and 2,968,000 in 1927.

The swell in population from 1977 to 1987 has been attributed to improvements in health, education, food, and to the increase in people's awareness and the elimination of child diseases. In addition the Iraqi government has offered incentives for expanded families.

Money is one of the main incentives. "A family may be able to afford only three children, but if the government is willing to help financially so that additional children will be able to live at the

same level as the other three children, why not have more?" asked another source.

Government workers receive two Iraqi dinars (ID) for each of their first three children. With each additional child, the bonus increases geometrically, for example ID 4 for the fourth child, ID 8 for the fifth, ID 16 for the sixth, and so on.

Further incentives include a two year paid leave for women who deliver twins; free health care and education through university covering books, pens and notebooks; low prices for food and clothing, especially children clothing.

These incentives are very helpful since most salaries at first employment start with ID 97. However, the source noted that most Iraqi men usually do not start families until they have established themselves financially.

Asked if such a drive for larger families would lead to polygamy, the source said such condition is difficult in Iraq. In order for an Iraqi man to marry another woman his first wife must accompany him to court and agree to it. He should also provide convincing and compelling reasons to the court.

In case of divorce an Iraqi man must leave his house and children to his wife and give alimony. If the need arises the court decides who is more fit to raise the children.

The average family size in Iraq is eight. As in most countries,

rural families tend to have more children, since more hands are needed in the fields, while the more affluent and urbanites have smaller families.

Beyond recording the number of inhabitants in Iraq, the 1987 census will examine the level of development in the country and simultaneously compile detailed data about individuals to be used in future development of the country.

Census forms consisted of 75 questions which Iraqi, Arab and foreigners living in Iraq, and the Iraqi communities abroad had to answer. The questions, designed by the ministry of planning and the central statistical organisation, covered all aspects of the individual's life such as personal information, social and economic status, labour force information, and residential status.

Those living in housing units answered questions concerning the material of construction; if the unit was provided with electricity and telephone, the sources of drinking water and even where how dirty water is discharged.

There were separate questions for students studying abroad, individuals born before 17/10/77 (date of the last census), deaths in the family, population over 10 years old who were not studying.

The forms were distributed a week prior to Oct. 1 by 170,000 counters. Each counter was assigned 25 houses. During the week it was his or her responsibility to check up on the house and see if any help was needed in

filling the form. To help the counters gather the forms a countrywide curfew was imposed on Oct. 1 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A document from the central statistical organisation said that records have shown that 5,000 years ago the Babylonians and Egyptians counted their populations in order to organise their military might, making them the first peoples to carry out a census in the world.

Following the spread of Islam, the Arabs recorded the number of people and classified them according to their tribes. Records used to be up-dated by adding names of grown up children and omitting names of the dead. Information about the fighters, slaves, detailed descriptions of the horses and weapons were also kept.

Abbasides had censuses in big cities in order to provide them with public services. During the Ottoman rule in Iraq special attention was paid to the number of inhabitants. There are Ottoman records on the population of Baghdad, Basra and Mosul which go back to Sultan Salim and Sultan Murad's reigns, according to the document.

Before 1977, the "official" censuses which began in 1927 were not comprehensive due to difficulties in reaching all areas and inhabitants. However, the 1977 census is regarded as the most accurate, and the 1987 even more so.

Theatre in Israel mirrors political division

By Robert Danin
Reuters

ACRE — The conflict between Arabs and Jews took to the stage and the streets of this mixed Arab-Israeli Mediterranean port during an annual fringe theatre festival this month.

Right-wing protesters demonstrated against controversial plays such as "The Zionist Whore," "Gazans" and "Midnight Criticism," and police arrested six supporters of Rabbi Meir Kahane's anti-Arab Kach movement for disrupting a performance.

The plays, staged in the walled city's crusader ruins, deal with the effects of Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

City councillors from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud Bloc tried but failed to have the plays banned.

"This is the first time political issues were raised directly and bluntly at the festival," said Amir Orian, a theatre critic who helped select the plays for the festival.

The Kach militants were arrested when they disrupted the opening of a play by an Arab East Jerusalem theatre company. Riot police with tear gas protected the auditorium from flag-waving Jewish nationalists demonstrating outside.

Organisers sold 25,000 tickets to this year's 50 shows and many more Israelis visited Acre during the festival. Israel boasts the highest per capita theatre attendance in the world.

"The plays are a good thermometer... for Israeli society," festival spokesman Ben Zion Shira said. "The plays reflect what the people of the country are dealing with."

Previous festivals focused on war and death following Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon. This year, the festival was dominated by exploration of Israeli society and the relationship between Jews and Arabs.

"The Zionist Whore" portrays a prostitute, Batseva, who under pressure from a politician falsely levels an accusation of rape against an Arab who has been killed by a soldier. She refuses bribes but when the parliamentarian appeals to her Zionist patriotism she agrees to sign a written statement accusing the Arab.

In the final scene, the legislator's son promises to take care of Batseva and reveals his name, which she refused to divulge earlier. "They call me Israel," he tells her.

"I tried to give to Israelis the feeling of the other side," said Hagit Ya'ari, who directed and wrote the play, based on Jean-Paul Sartre's "The Respectful Prostitute."

"There is a part of Israel, especially those who grew up after the 1967 war, especially in the lower social bracket, who grew up hating the Arabs. It gives them a feeling that they belong to a group which is better than others," she said.

The title "Zionist Whore" angered some rightist and reli-

gious Israelis, who demonstrated with placards stating "art builds not destroys," calling for the play to be banned.

"If there was a performance of the 'Palestinian Whore,' they would raise it at the United Nations," said Emanuel Najjar, a local Likud activist.

Sinai Peter's "Midnight Criticism" contrasts the life of an agent for Israel's Shin Bet internal security service with that of his theatre critic wife. The agent comes home to his wife in Tel Aviv after work in the occupied West Bank.

"Today it was a nice day," he tells her in one scene. "We caught two dangerous students with their pants down. The way they look, I don't think they'll be going out soon if at all."

The play indicts Israeli society for ignoring the continued occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

"The playwright took the reality and put it in our living rooms. It says, you sit back in pubs and restaurants, thinking someone else is doing the security work. It's not, it's you," said Noya Lancet, who plays the theatre critic.

"Gazans," by Matti Baharav, portrays Palestinians from the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip who labour in Tel Aviv as cooks and building workers for minimal wages in degrading conditions.

Like "Midnight Criticism," "Gazans" portrays an integral part of life in Tel Aviv which most Jewish residents ignore.

Ironically, most of the festival audience came from Tel Aviv.

Acre is a fitting backdrop for plays focusing on relations between Arabs and Jews. The town's population of 38,000 is two-thirds Jewish, one-third Arab, and boasts close cooperation and integration between the two communities.

"Acre is a symbol of life in harmony Jews and Arabs together. The festival is proof that Jews and Arabs can live together," municipal spokesman David Goral said.

A local Arab Communist organiser, Mussa Yossef, agreed. "The relations between the Jews and Arabs in Acre are excellent," he said.

Four plays at the festival were performed in Arabic, and special efforts were made to bring Arabs to see performances.

"It's a significant achievement. Maybe this is our contribution to integration between Jews and Arabs in the region," said festival spokesman Shira.

While Acre itself shows that Jews and Arabs can live together in peace, the festival indicates that many Israeli artists are uncomfortable with the prolonged occupation.

The protests generated by the festival illustrate the constant interplay between art and politics in Israel.

"I'm happy someone is annoyed, and that people come to demonstrate," said critic Amir Orian. "Theatre is a political issue."

20th avant-garde arts festival presents animals as artists

By David Lewis
Reuters

GRAZ, Austria — Tadpoles are presented as composers, butterfly larvae as jewellers and woodworm as textile designers at this year's annual Styrian autumn, one of the world's major festivals of avant-garde art.

"This is the very first time that the live animal has been the theme of an art show," said performance artist Richard Kriesche, organiser of the festival's "animal art" section.

The idea is that the animal should be thought of as part of the art process, not as an art object... we are talking about art with animals, not depictions of animals.

Animal art launched this year's festival programme in the capital of Austria's southern Styria province with a "peace action" by 50 doves and U.S. performance

artist Paul Kos. The birds, with tiny bells attached to them, were released to fly over Graz.

Festival director Peter Vujica — who told Reuters he aimed to "emancipate" the animal world, "to bring into partnership all of life which does not walk on two legs" — invited all animals to bring their humans along.

"Special series of sounds, audible only to animals, will be transmitted," promised the invitation card. "Snackbars for dogs, cats, birds, and others will be available."

The disappointed organisers announced that about 15 dogs and one cat attended the opening ceremony, although they had prepared buffets for birds, hamsters and other pets.

Animal art, the focus of the 20th Styrian autumn involves 100 species of animal, from micro-organism to elephant.

Musicians have played "frog

music" composed by tadpoles — the tadpoles swam over musical staves, and the musicians played whatever note they swam over.

American Mark Thompson wandered the streets of Graz covered in live bees. Patterns etched by woodworm have been printed onto cloth.

French artist Hubert Duprat put seed pearls and pieces of gold leaf in containers where caddisfly larvae were making their cocoons. The larvae dived wove the materials into jewel-like cocoons.

In one of four exhibition sites, U.S. artist Joey Skaggs made submerged dolls houses, complete with food, toys and miniature furniture, for what he calls "upwardly mobile yuppy guppies."

In another exhibit, a video device sets the visitor's image alongside one of a captive mouse.

"Dealing with animals means dealing with our inner structure,

with the remnants of our relationship to nature, which is being broken by industrialisation," Kriesche says.

Animal art is not restricted to real animals, however. John Billingsley from Portsmouth, England, organised a "micro-mouse" contest testing the ability of computer mice to find their way around a maze and, says Kriesche, showing humans how they themselves learned to perform their jobs.

Above festival headquarters — a baroque palace whose style is anything but avant-garde — fellow-Briton Eric Bainbridge blends nature and the artificial with fake leopard-skin sculptures and huge cuddly animals in red and purple nylon fur.

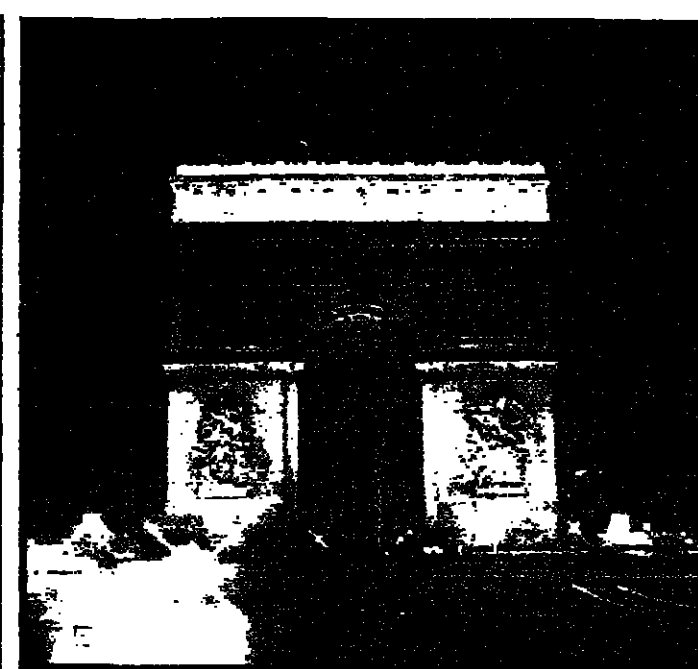
And a two-day symposium discussed gene technology and artificial intelligence amid lectures on "ornithopoetry," "animals as creations of nature and culture"

Catholics. In other parts of Sri Lanka, most Sinhalese are Buddhists, while Tamils follow the Hindu faith. About 9 per cent are Christians.

Mass at St. Mary's church is recited in Sinhalese, Tamil and English. Most shops display their names in English — a language held in common.

The Rev. Leander Fernando, a Sinhalese priest at St. Mary's church, estimated that slightly more than half Negombo's population was Sinhalese, with Tamil-speaking Muslims accounting for about 30 per cent and Tamils the remaining 20 per cent.

Most of the fighting in Sri Lanka has occurred in areas



Arc de Triomphe

France launches international drive to restore monument

By Marilyn August
The Associated Press

PARIS — An international fundraising campaign was launched Oct. 13 to restore the ailing Arc de Triomphe, which sits swaddled in a diaper-like netting to keep chunks of stone from falling on tourists visiting the tomb of the unknown soldier.

The role of American money in preserving the monument, commissioned by Napoleon in 1806, has sparked protests from French nationalists.

But leaders in the campaign, headed by former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, said funds from any source would be welcome.

"We are very anxious to have Americans participate in restoring the arch," French Culture Minister Francois Leotard said.

The cost of restoring the 151-year-old monument, commemorating Napoleon's military victories, is estimated at 35 million francs (\$6 million), half of which will be paid by the government. Six private companies are leading the drive for additional funds with contributions of 500,000 francs (around \$83,000) each.

"The government alone could finance the entire operation," Leotard said at a news conference.

"But it is the responsibility of our citizens, of our entire nation," he said. "The Arc de Triomphe is not a monument like any other. It symbolises the glory and the suffering of our nation."

Earlier, the role of American Express in restoring the arch sparked opposition in the French press. The *Figaro* and *Le Quotidien* of Paris, both conservative dailies, called for French financing, saying it was matter of "national dignity."

"It was never our intention to be the only corporate donor," said Claude Joven, senior vice president of American Express, one of the companies leading the funding drive.

The other five founding members of the national Association for the Restoration of the Arc de

Triomphe are all French — Publicis, Primagaz, Rhone-Poulenc, Credit Lyonnais and the Fondation Nationale des Travaux Publics.

Americans have long been involved in preserving French national monuments. The Rockefeller Foundation restored the Versailles Palace to its former splendour, American Express helped save the Island Abbey of Mont St. Michel. American funds renovated Claude Monet's country home at Giverny and the "Friends of Vieilles Maisons Françaises" have repaired historic homes throughout France.

But critics say the Arc de Triomphe is special, particularly because of the memorial to the unknown soldier, which French presidents traditionally salute as their first official gesture after election.

The arch is one of many historical monuments in Paris suffering the effects of age, pollution, rain, heavy automobile traffic and the vibrations caused by subway lines.

Over the years, the seals holding its mammoth blocks of stone in place have begun to disintegrate. Many of the statues sculpted by 19th century artists such as Francois Rude and James Pradier have broken heads, or lack arms and feet.

The renovations will be conducted in three phases. First, the entire structure — 50 metres high and 45 metres wide — and the sculptures will be repaired.

Lateral supports will be inserted and concrete will be injected into the stone to fill interior cracks and crevices. The stone of the arch will then be treated with a special waterproofing agent.

Renovations, expected to take two years, will begin next May after the presidential elections, thus allowing the newly elected president to maintain the tradition of visiting the tomb of the unknown soldier.

Officials at the culture ministry said the arch would be closed to visitors for as yet unspecified periods during the renovations.

Metro baffles many Egyptians

By Dalia Baligh
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — The world's newest subway system is having growing pains and is under fire from the press for shortcomings, but its operators say usage is heavy and increasing.

Opened to the public on Oct. 1, the \$300-million French-built and -financed subway covers 4.5 kilometres under downtown Cairo and connects with existing surface track south of the city. The underground portion terminates at the main railway station on Ramses Square in central Cairo and Sayeda Zeinab district to the south.

When President Hosni Mubarak and Jacques Chirac, the French premier, inaugurated the subway on Sept. 27, the president described it as a dream come true for Egyptians.

Newspaper columnists compared the first subway in Africa or the Middle East to the great achievements of Egypt's past: Construction of the Giza pyramids, the Suez Canal, the Aswan High Dam.

So far, the subway remains a curiosity to some Egyptians, but there's no way to tell how many of the 400,000 to 450,000 daily metro users are riding it for the novelty. Abdul Moneim Emara, senior operations engineer at the General Authority for Subways, said the goal is 600,000 daily riders "within a matter of months."

"I'm just riding the metro to take a look at it and show it to the children," said Madiha Hamed, a housewife with two young daughters in tow. "After being inundated with so much news about it on television and in the papers, I had to come and see. But I won't use it much."

Another rider, farmer Ahmed Salem, wearing a galabiyah, the robe common in rural Egypt, said he was in Cairo on business and had decided to take a ride on the metro.

"I told my children that I would take a ride and tell them all about it," he said. "It's very nice, and now I am the only one in my village who's ridden it."

For six years, Cairenes coped with monumental traffic jams as the heart of the city was torn apart. Inconveniences were borne courageously, however, as officials promised the long-awaited metro would decrease traffic congestion by 30 per cent by getting a half-million people a day off the roads.

But the bloom was off the rose just two weeks after the first passenger boarded a train. Road traffic remained a mess, blamed on still-unfinished metro digging and street diversions.

A woman in a peasant's long, black velvet galabiyah surrendered her ticket to a policeman standing beside the automatic ticket machine, who put it into the slot. Instead of pushing through the bar and walking in, she proceeded to crawl under it.

Scientists drill for 5,000-year-old air

By Sara El-Gammal
Reuters

GIZA, Egypt — American and Egyptian scientists have started drilling at the pyramid of Cheops near Cairo for an invisible ancient treasure as precious as any tangible relic — a 5,000-year-old pocket of air.

Using specially-designed scientific equipment, they aim to capture ancient air trapped in a 10 metre-long pit covered with limestone slabs and sealed with gypsum cement by the ancient Egyptians.

Capturing this air and analysing it is very precious for both scientists and conservators," said Omar Arini, an archaeological chemist and Egyptian coordinator of the project organised by the U.S. National Geographic Society.

"If we can get the exact composition of the atmosphere inside the pit, it can be used for the conservation of organic objects in museums all over the world," he added.

Video cameras will be lowered to reveal the contents of the pit, long believed to house a second "solar boat" — a pharaonic funerary vessel — similar to one excavated nearby in 1954.

Experts believed the solar boat, built about 2600 B.C., was used to transport the soul of a dead king like Cheops to the afterworld.

In the solar cult, two boats were needed to accompany the sun-god on a daily trip across the heavens and on a nightly journey beneath the earth.

The first solar boat, largely built of cedar wood, was discovered in almost perfect condition. This prompted us to do something that was not done before, to probe the atmosphere of a sealed pit prior to excavation," Arini told Reuters.

Team members started drilling on Saturday, using a drill without cooling or lubricating fluids to bore a hole 10 cms in diameter in the pit's flat limestone covering, 1.5 metres thick. The opera-

tion is due to last several days. An airtight apparatus was designed to ensure no air leaked in or out during drilling.

"We'll drill one inch at a time at a very slow rotation," said Robert Moores, who designed the device. As drilling progresses, dust and stone particles will be sucked out with a vacuum-cleaner and air inside the bore-hole will be replaced with pure air brought from the Rocky Mountains.

Once the pit has been penetrated, scientists will analyse gases, pressure, temperature and relative humidity.

Moores said the team would put aluminium plugs halfway down the hole to seal off the air. Strong plastic resin and gypsum will be put onto the plugs.

The air will be taken in airtight canisters to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in Colorado.

Then scientists will try to date the air. And some doubt it will really be as old as the organisers hope.

"We will try to date the air, but I don't have great hopes that it is ancient," said Pieter Tans, a scientist with NOAA.

"If it is — and the results will be known a few weeks after the analysis — it will be remarkable that plaster and cement made airtight seals for about 4600 years," he said.

Kamal El Mallakh, who discovered the first solar boat and the second pit at the same time, opposes the project.

"When I opened the first pit and found Cheops' solar boat, I realised there was another in the attached pit," Mallakh told Reuters.

"I could have opened both pits on the same day then, but I didn't because there were no facilities for both. I kept the other as a spare against the destructive forces of nature."

Mallakh said that even if the scientists were careful, air would seep into the pit and its contents will slowly decompose.

Sri Lanka: Ethnic groups live together in seaside town

By Earlene Fisher
The Associated Press

NEGOMBO, Sri Lanka — For longer than anyone can remember, Sinhalese and Tamils have lived together peacefully in this town by the sea.

Ethnic violence that erupts in massacres and guerrilla warfare in other parts of the island seldom reaches Negombo — a community of muddy streets and tiny plaster and wood houses on the palm-lined coast of Sri Lanka.

Still, a sense of separatism remains, despite proclamations by Sinhalese and Tamils that they live together in harmony.

"I have many Sinhalese friends

and customers," said Joseph de Rose, a 28-year-old shopkeeper, briskly making change for a constant stream of people buying soft drinks, biscuits and laundry detergent.

But he recoiled when asked if he approved of marriages between his people and the Sinhalese.

"No. It's a matter of race. I would never let a daughter marry a Sinhalese," he said.

Tamil rebels have been fighting a guerrilla war for four years to create an independent nation in the island, where they make up 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people.

The rebels say they are dis-

minated against by the Sinhalese, who comprise 75 per cent of the population.

About 17,000 Indian troops have been sent to Sri Lanka to enforce a peace accord and heavy fighting has occurred in Jaffna, a rebel stronghold in the northeast.

But so far Negombo has been spared.

As with all of Sri Lanka, language is the dividing factor in this town of about 68,000 located 48 kilometres north of Colombo. Tamils speak Tamil, and Sinhalese speak Sinhalese.

But there are unifying factors, too.

About two-thirds of both groups in the town are Roman

Catholics. In other parts of Sri Lanka, most Sinhalese are Buddhists, while Tamils follow the Hindu faith. About 9 per cent are Christians.

Mass at St. Mary's church is recited in Sinhalese, Tamil and English. Most shops display their names in English — a language held in common.

The Rev. Leander Fernando, a Sinhalese priest at St. Mary's church, estimated that slightly more than half Negombo's population was Sinhalese, with Tamil-speaking Muslims accounting for about 30 per cent and Tamils the remaining 20 per cent.

Most of the fighting in Sri Lanka has occurred in areas

where Tamils make up at least half of the population.

Sri-ganganie Fernando, one of the worshippers at a morning Sinhalese mass, said she has had Tamil friends since childhood.

"Here it is very peaceful, but when something happens when a bomb goes off somewhere else — people feel in their hearts it's the Tamils," said the travel agent.

On the other side of Negombo, where waves crash against a sandy shore lined with coconut palms and fishermen's huts, Nilanthi, a 25-year-old Tamil Catholic, said the ethnic violence had touched Negombo in another way.

Her husband used to work for a commercial fisherman on the east

coast, near the rebel strongholds Batticaloa and Trincomalee, where more than 200 Sinhalese civilians were killed by Tamil separatists earlier this month.

"Now he doesn't go because of the troubles. The man who owns the boat is afraid he will lose it," Nilanthi said. "Now my husband catches only small fish at Negombo and earns very little money."

N. Rajaratnam, a Tamil goldsmith, said everyone has suffered because of the conflict but "the trouble is in the political field, not among the people."

The goldsmith traced the ethnic struggles to a 1956 decree that made Sinhalese the island's only official language.

W. Indies in for uphill cricket struggle against Sri Lanka

Imran yearns to meet Indian team in Lahore heats

KANPUR, India (Agencies) — West Indies, twice World Cup champions but now struggling to survive beyond the group matches, should find the going less traumatic when they play their fourth match against Sri Lanka here on Wednesday.

After losing two of their first three Group B matches in the final over, West Indies will be looking to repeat their massive 191-run win over the Sri Lankans first time round.

But just as important as winning, will be scoring runs quickly. With England's defeat by Pakistan on Tuesday, the possibility increased that the second semifinal place from the section would be decided by run rate.

With this in mind, West Indies Manager Clyde Walcott expressed satisfaction with conditions for the match. "The pitch is excellent and perfectly suits our purpose," he said.

Both sides delayed naming their teams although Sri Lanka's captain Dulip Mendis indicated that 36-year-old left-arm spinner Sitharan Jaganathan would be brought in for his first game. Walcott is under no illusions about the task facing his team. "We have to win all three remaining games to have a chance of qualifying for the semifinals," he said.

With their luck running the way it is, the West Indies will do well to remember that Sri Lanka came close to toppling section

leaders Pakistan in the first match of the tournament.

The margin was only 15 runs and the Sri Lankans have proved in the past they are capable of springing surprises.

With a slight shift of fortune, the West Indies could have been contemplating a win on Wednesday that would have assured them of a place in the semifinals.

Instead, they conceded 13 and 14 runs in the last over against England and Pakistan respectively to see certain victory turned to defeat.

"I think we have got into this habit of letting games slip away from us in the closing stages," Richards said.

"The last overs remain a worry. But I am sure the boys will have realised the mistakes they are making. We are a keen, eager bunch and will not give up without a fight."

Imran sets sight on India

Imran Khan's idea of the perfect World Cup semifinal for his victorious Pakistan team is against India — but in the Pakistani city of Lahore.

Asked in a television interview

which team he would like to meet now that Pakistan is assured of a semifinal place from Group B, Imran said without hesitation: "We'd like to play against India in Lahore."

The Lahore semifinal on Nov. 4 will pit the winners of Group B against the runners-up of Group A. With Pakistan leading their section by a large margin and India lying second in Group A, Imran's dream could well come true.

"Except that the last two times we lost in the semifinals," he added with a laugh. "Still it's nice to qualify."

Imran said he had made more use of the spinners against England and especially leg-break bowler Abdul Qadir, who took three for 31, because the pitch was extremely slow.

"I can manipulate the bowling around quite a lot, there's a lot of depth, especially with Qadir," said Imran. "We can always spring him on the tail. If the tail is exposed to Qadir, it always stops the scoring rate and restricts the total of the opposition."

"I figured it was much harder to hit a slow bowler than a faster one. As you saw in the England attack at the end, Emburey was quite difficult although I suppose because we didn't lose wickets the real value of the England spinners never came through."



VIRTUOSO IN THE MUD: Uwe Seeler, who captained HSV Hamburg in the 1960's and early 70's, is seen "breakdancing" in effort to kick the ball during an Oct. 15 match with Hamburg club. HSV was last Bundesliga soccer champions in 1964 but ended the 1986/87 season as runners-up to Bayern Munich in the league and as Cup-winners (Photo by Dad)

South Korea shuns Pyongyang's demands, reiterates Olympic stand

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea rejected North Korea's call for direct talks to co-hosting the 1988 Seoul Olympics Tuesday and charged the North was trying to block international talks on the issue.

Kim Chong-Ha, president of the South Korean Olympic Committee, said in a letter delivered to North Korean officials at the border meeting site of Panmunjom that direct talks were impossible.

North Korea called on South Korea Oct. 12 to hold direct talks on Pyongyang's demand to co-host the games. It called for the talks instead of resuming negotiations with the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

North Korea's call for direct talks with the South excluding the IOC was the second request. The North sent a similar demand Sept. 15 that was rejected by

South Korea.

Kim said in his letter Tuesday that North Korea was attempting to delay a resumption of the IOC negotiations in Lausanne, Switzerland. The letter was addressed to North Korean Olympic Committee President Kim Yu-Sun.

"If you repeat an assertion of co-hosting of the games of the 24th Olympiad without accepting the IOC's adjusted proposal and repeatedly demand to convene a meeting between the South and North Korean Olympic committees instead of the Lausanne talks, it would only be interpreted as an action to delay the holding of the Lausanne talks by any means," the letter said.

The IOC has offered North Korea the right to hold five events if it drops its co-hosting demand and takes part in the Seoul events. South Korea has

also rejected co-hosting.

North Korea has threatened to lead a boycott of the games if its co-host demand is not met. The two Koreas have been divided since 1945 and the bitter rivals fought the Korean war between 1950 and 1953.

Kim urged his North Korean counterpart to accept the IOC offer and returned to Lausanne for talks to finalise arrangements for the games that are scheduled to begin Sept. 17, 1988.

"If you really want the Lausanne talks to be held and come to an end successfully, you should accept the IOC's adjusted proposal without reserve," the letter said.

IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch called on Aug. 24 for a fifth round of talks with the two Koreas in Lausanne if North Korea accepts its offer.

Soviet gymnasts take early lead in Rotterdam

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands (Agencies) — The Soviet Union took the lead after the compulsory exercises of the men's team competition at the World Gymnastics Championships Tuesday.

The Soviet team, led by Dmitri Bilozherov, was far ahead with 294.05 points. East Germany was second with 289.85, edging China with 289.8. The optional exercises will be completed on Wednesday and Thursday.

Bilozherov took the lead for the individual all-around title. He was the 1983 world champion but is returning after a severe auto accident in 1985 that broke his leg.

The powerful Soviet gymnasts took the top four individual places with Bilozherov in front with 59.0 points out of a possible 60.

Teammates Valeri Liukine, the European champion this year, was second with 58.95 points. Yuri Korolev and Vladimir Artemov tied for third with 58.9 points. Korolev is the 1981 and 1985 all-around champion.

"Obviously we are pleased with the performance," said Leonid Arkaev, the Soviet coach. "The only small problem we have is with Liukine's foot."

Liukine hurt his foot in practice earlier in the week. China's triple Olympic gold medalist Li Ning and his compatriots, who complained that early start times contributed to their losing the men's world team title in 1985, have drawn the short straw again at this year's games.

The Chinese are unhappy at being scheduled to perform their compulsory exercises in the team

event at eight a.m. local time on Tuesday and they found backing for their lamentations from the event's medical director.

Fons Veer says the early hour of many scheduled training periods in the run-up to the championships has contributed to at least six injuries here.

In the team event, Japan, which led after the first day, is now tied for fourth with Bulgaria, both with 287.8 points. Hungary followed with 286.0 dropping the United States to seventh with 285.6.

The top 12 teams qualify for the 1988 Olympics in Seoul. The top 36 gymnasts, limited to three per country, will advance to the all-around finals on Saturday night counting their scores from the two rounds of the team event.

Man charged with two counts murder in soccer tie melee

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island (AP) — A man was charged with two counts of first-degree murder Monday in the deaths of two men who were shot during a fight at a soccer match. District Judge Anthony Dennis ordered Manuel Rivera, 18, held without bond pending an Oct. 28 bail hearing.

Rivera is charged with the Sunday shooting deaths of Douglas Leon, 29, and Byron Valle, 24, both of Providence. The fight apparently began after a car ran into several others, one of them belonging to Robert Leon of Providence. When Leon and his brother, Douglas Leon, went to investigate, they got into an argument with the driver of the car believed to have hit the other vehicles, said police Maj. Milton R. Wilson. A melee broke out involving about 30 people, and the driver allegedly pulled a gun and shot Douglas Leon in the face. Wilson said. He was pronounced dead at Roger Williams Hospital, Valle, a bystander, was shot in the chest and died at the scene.

Neuchatel plans all-out attack against Bayern

NEUCHÂTEL, Switzerland (R) — Swiss champions Neuchatel Xamax will go all-out for early goals when they meet Bayern Munich in their European Cup second round first leg tie here on Wednesday.

Neuchatel captain and playmaker Heinz Hermann, his side full of confidence after beating Servette Geneva 4-1 in their last league match, said: "We have no fear of Bayern. We will play our usual attacking game and with the support of our home crowd an early breakthrough can upset them."

Bayern coach Jupp Heynkes, who has spied on three of the Swiss club's recent matches, said he is reconsidering his tactics. "Neuchatel are a formidable

team and they are superbly led by Heinz Hermann who is a great fighter," he said.

Former Bayern captain Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, now with Servette and who made his Swiss debut as a second-half substitute in their heavy defeat, has warned his younger brother — Bayern striker Michael — not to underestimate his Swiss opponents.

With the exception of West German Uli Stielike, still unfit after a knee operation three months ago, Xamax trainer, Frenchman Gilbert Gress, has a full strength squad available.

Midfielder Lothar Matthaus is expected to return for Bayern after two months out with a groin injury. Striker Juergen Wegmann, who limped off on Satur-

day, is expected to be a substitute.

Captain and sweeper Klaus Augenthaler is still suspended after being sent off against Real Madrid in the semifinals last season. But Norbert Nachreiner, his deputy, has been in such good form that his captain has hardly been missed.

Bayern, beaten by Porto in the European Cup final last May, are currently third in the Bundesliga while Neuchatel are second in the Swiss League.

Neuchatel are one of the best-supported clubs in Swiss soccer and are unbeaten at home in 12 European ties. They have been quarter-finalists in the UEFA Cup twice in the last five seasons and protect a 21-match unbeaten

run on their own ground.

Barcelona, battling to recover from a disastrous start to the Spanish League season, faces a tough test when it meets Dynamo Moscow in a UEFA Cup second round first leg tie here on Wednesday.

A goal by West German midfielder Bernd Schuster secured Barcelona their only second League win of the season at the weekend. He struck from a free-kick to beat Sabadell away 1-0 and so end a run of four successive defeats.

The result was hardly emphatic, but indicated a slow return to form by the erratic Schuster and a recovery of confidence in a team badly shaken last month by the dismissal of coach Terry Venables.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

2 teams fail to scale Dhaulagiri I

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Two separate Japanese teams were unable to conquer the 8,167-metre Mount Dhaulagiri I because of weather problems, reports from the two base camps have said. Hiroshi Aota, 29, of Tokyo and Jun Sakai of Nagano, trying to climb the south face of the world's tallest peak, abandoned the effort on Oct. 10 because of heavy snow and avalanches along their route, their report said on Monday. A five-member team led by Tatsushima Mitoma, 36, of Fukuoka, said it reached a height of 7,299 metres along the northeast ridge route before high winds forced it to halt the climb.

Atletico, Internacional to semifinals

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Atletico Mineiro and Internacional have secured places in the semifinal round of the Brazilian National Soccer League Championship, after winning their groups in the competition's opening stage. The undefeated Atletico Mineiro, coached by Brazil's world cup manager Tele Santana, beat Rio's Fluminense 3-1 on Sunday to win the Group 1 spot with 14 points. In Group 2, Internacional, who lost 1-0 against Corinthians, still went through to the semifinals because their major group rivals also lost over the weekend. The second round of the competition starts next weekend with all teams starting from scratch. Vasco da Gama's striker Romario ended the first stage as the top marksman of the league, with six goals.

New signings for French soccer team

PARIS (R) — France, which failed to negotiate the qualifying round in its European Championship soccer defence, has lined up a series of international engagements as its team rebuilds for the future. French Football Federation press spokesman Philippe Tournon said on Monday they would tour occupied Palestine in January, stage a four-nation tournament in the south of France in February, and face Spain in Bordeaux in March and Yugoslavia away in April.

Hill to defend world boxing title in Paris

PARIS (R) — Virgil Hill of the United States will make the first defence of his World Boxing Association (WBA) light-heavyweight title against French champion Rufino Angulo in France on Nov. 21. French Television has said. A spokesman for the TF1 Channel, which will screen the bout, said Monday that the venue had yet to be decided but it would be in the Paris area. Hill, 1984 Olympic middleweight champion, won the title when he knocked out Leslie Stewart of Trinidad and Tobago in Atlantic City on Sept. 5.

UEFA ban on Solda mitigated

BERNE (R) — The European Football Union (UEFA) has cut the four-match ban on Roberto Solda of Italian First Division Club Verona to three matches on appeal. Solda was sent off for "extreme violence" during Verona's UEFA Cup first round first leg tie against Pogon Szczecin of Poland on Sept. 16.

Nati gives up European boxing challenge

ROME (R) — European featherweight boxing champion Valerio Nati of Italy has withdrawn from a defence of the title and will concentrate on challenging for a world title, the Italian Boxing Federation (IBF) said on Tuesday. Nati's next defence against Belgium's Jean-Claude Renard, scheduled for next week in Lucera, Italy, has been cancelled and the European Boxing Union (EBU) will organise a new opponent for Renard later, a federation spokesman said. Nati is preparing to challenge Australia's Jeff French for the World Boxing Council (WBC) super-featherweight title early next year, the spokesman added.

FOOTBALL

Washington Redskins outwit experienced Dallas Cowboys

IRVING, Texas (AP) — It was only fitting in the NFL's final replacement game that a former semi-pro quarterback was the winner and a 13-year veteran quarterback failed with the contest on the line.

The Washington Redskins, without any regular starters, beat the Dallas Cowboys, who started seven veterans, 13-7 Monday night in an NFC east showdown for first place.

Tony Robinson, a former Tennessee star who was playing for

the Richmond Ravens in September, led Washington to victory after Ed Rubbert went down with a shoulder injury in the first period.

Robinson completed 11 of 18 passes for 152 yards (139 metres) and Lionel Vital ran for 136 yards (124 m) against a Dallas defence that included a frontline of veterans Randy White, Don Smerek, Kevin Brooks, and Ed Jones.

Washington advanced to 4-1 and Dallas dropped to 3-2



Anatoly Karpov



Garry Kasparov

Kasparov wins 4th chess battle after Karpov resigns

SEVILLE, Spain (R) — Anatoly Karpov on Tuesday resigned the adjourned fourth game of the World Chess Championship match against titleholder Garry Kasparov.

Karpov resigned the game without resuming play by notifying chief arbiter Geurt Gijssen of Holland at just after 2.30 p.m. (1530 GMT).

The score in the 24-game series is now tied at 2-2. The fifth game is scheduled for

Wednesday at 4.30 local time (1530 GMT).

The committee previously said Karpov had resigned, giving Kasparov the game, which began on Monday.

Experts agreed Karpov, playing with the black pieces, had already effectively lost. A win for Kasparov would tie the 24-game series at 2-2.

The title will go to the first player to score 12½ points or win six games. In the event of a 12-12 tie, the champion retains the title.

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Banks cut interest rate

NEW YORK (R) — Two leading U.S. banks on Tuesday rescinded increases in their prime lending rates announced last week, giving a battered stock market some cheering news as trading resumed after the biggest one-day loss in Wall Street history. Chemical Bank of New York rolled back its 9.75 per cent rate to 9.25 per cent and was quickly followed by Marine Midland, which did the same. However, none of the other major banks followed the lead. White House officials said last week after the increase in the prime rate that the current level of U.S. interest rates was not justified by other economic indicators.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.6690/6700	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3030/40	Canadian dollar
	1.7920/30	West German marks
	2.0155/65	Dutch guilders
	1.4865/75	Swiss francs
	37.28/33	Belgian francs
	5.9890/9915	French francs
	295/1296	Italian lira
	142.65/75	Japanese yen
	6.3300/50	Swedish crowns
	6.5775/5825	Norwegian crowns
	6.8925/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	489.00/481.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices surged from their midday lows in late trading, dealers said. They rallied after a statement by U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan that the Fed was ready to provide liquidity to support the economy and the financial system, and news that two major U.S. banks had cut their prime lending rates, dealers said.

There were also rumours that some U.S. institutional investors might be willing to stand in the Wall Street market and absorb any selling. The FTSE 100 share index at 1430 GMT was down 117.5 points at 1,934.8 after a low of 1,748.2 at 1100 GMT.

"This is the sort of news we needed, but it's by no means the beginning of the end of the sell-off," was the initial response of one U.K. trader.

The Wall Street market had soared well over 150 points by 1430 GMT on the Greenspan and prime rate news, but prices there were also supported by a premium on futures index contracts, New York dealers said.

After the brief euphoric rise in the wake of Wall Street's early surge, the rally on the London market tended to run out of steam.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Knight Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Many interesting new opportunities are present today — you need only open your eyes and look around you. Focus your energies on improving relationships with those who can be helpful in business.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Let your talents be recognized by superiors and gain their cooperation — as well as an opportunity for financial advancement.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): If you make your surroundings more neat and orderly, you'll function more efficiently. Commitments will get you everywhere today.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): Be sure your car is in good running order before leaving on any trips. Make use of your talents, and you'll have great business success.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): Invite some helpful friends into your home, but first get rid of the clutter and make the place more comfortable and pleasant.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): This is a good day to forge some new friendships, whether they be personal or business related. Handle your correspondence early.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): Your time is very valuable today, so make a schedule this morning and stick to it rigidly. This will be a happy evening for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): You'll feel full of energy today, so make use of it. Get out and visit friends, run some errands, take care

of bills and other commitments.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Try to please your mate with some special thought which will be appreciated. You can become a very popular person with some effort.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Arrange a get-together with a group of old friends. Reminiscing could be very enjoyable. Be very cautious when driving.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): You can accomplish a great deal today if you apply yourself and stick to a schedule. Contact some long-forgotten friends tonight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): This is a good day to plan a trip you've been contemplating. See if you can interest some good friends in accompanying you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Your hunches are right on target today, so don't be afraid to follow them. Don't take any risks where your health is concerned.

If Your Child Is Born Today: He or she will get along well with others, and should be trained in the social graces and cultural subjects. Your progeny may tend to be overly conspicuous, so teach him or her to arrive at decisions a bit more quickly. A fine education will be very helpful to your child.

"The Stars impel they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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THE Daily Crossword by William Canine

ACROSS

- McCarver and McCoy
- Faux pas
- Exchange
- Pullitzer
- novelist
- Racket man
- Jimmy
- Hawallan port
- Novelist Pierre
- Hush
- Muazzin's call to prayer
- Vulnerable spot
- Finnish islands
- Slippery ones
- Cipher worker
- Bern's river
- Big cat
- Submerge
- Dennybrook
- Galley?
- Timber tool
- Spool
- Remote
- Architectural edges
- Timetable abbr.
- Shaving the head
- Cutting device
- Convey
- Fastener
- Flight of steps
- Server
- Rainbows
- Stronghold of a kind
- Region
- Long walk
- Bivouacs
- Gemsbok
- Deafest
- Reckless
- Cleaver effective

DOWN

- Soft mineral
- Stravinsky
- Beyoncé pret.
- Grab
- Risks
- Melodious
- Citizen of
- Turkey
- Jack for one
- in the style of: suit.
- Fastile rock
- Popular comic strip
- Author Milne
- Duck milieu
- Outcry
- Totipot
- Scrap
- Hemp plant
- Passion
- Arifanans
- Distresses
- Citizen of
- Tabriz
- Deep purple
- Cyst
- Ideal in Chin.
- religion
- Oliver role
- Recipe word
- Tiki—
- Most diurnal
- Brazil's money
- once
- A Selson
- Following
- Manila's site
- Comic Mori
- See Gato e.g.
- Legion
- Offended
- 59 A Selson
- 51 Levitates
- 52 Simulate

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

MARY BRADY POP
DON'T LEADER ALL
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS
ARE GREEN ALBES
FARM MARRIERS
MARRAS RIDGES
AIDA CAMAL RIE
KITTENBROOKS
SIS TROUS PLEASER
DERRARR CHIN
AARRA RROO ROR
RAAARRAARRAARRA
KIST RARRINE RORR
RIS RARRINE RIER

Markets reel from Wall Street collapse

LONDON (R) — Share prices took new punishment around the globe on Tuesday in the unprecedented panic sell-off that began on Wall Street.

Among the biggest markets, Tokyo shed almost 15 per cent of its value in a record fall and London dropped by the same amount in Europe's morning. Officials shut Hong Kong's market until next Monday.

"It's a bit like shovelling 50 pound notes down a mine shaft," said a London dealer, as brokerages were left holding the shares which investors had unloaded.

But the selling pressure eased off in Paris and Frankfurt. All eyes were on what Wall Street would do when it resumes business. Since Wednesday, when bad U.S. trade figures rattled confidence in the U.S. economy, Wall Street has lost almost 30 per cent of its value, the most precipitous drop in history.

Government officials called the falls overdue and sought to calm panic-stricken investors, as U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker abandoned a European trip to fly home for crisis talks.

And, after Frankfurt talks on Monday night between Mr. Baker and West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg, there were signs of a new resolve among leading industrial nations to cap a global trend towards higher interest rates.

Costlier borrowing threatens to choke already-sluggish economic activity, and stockbrokers say anxiety about a possible recession was among factors to trigger the Wall Street slide.

The message from government leaders on Tuesday was that comparisons with the 1929 Wall Street crash were incorrect and no rerun of the 1930s Great Depression was in prospect.

But economists say the world economy will need prudent management. Companies find it harder to raise money to expand their business in "bear" or falling stock markets.

And finance houses left holding the shares unloaded by investors will feel exposed. Rumours in the London market that Goldman Sachs and Co and E.F. Hutton Group Inc faced liquidity problems drew vigorous denials from the firms' spokesmen.

"Without some government coordination and cooperation to stop this crash, it will be a very difficult situation," said a senior analyst at Nomura Research Institute in Tokyo.

British Chancellor of the Exchequer (Finance Minister) Nigel Lawson said on Tuesday: "My advice to small investors ... is to remain calm. There is absolutely no reason not to do so."

He said on radio: "This began on Wall Street. It has a lot to do with the American stock market (and) a lack of confidence in the U.S. — and some careless talk by those who should have known better."

Mr. Lawson said the only way the United States could go into recession would be "if it actually talks itself into recession."

Mr. Karl Otto Poehl, president of the West German central bank, said recent interest rate

risers in various nations including Germany were "cause for concern. I would like to stress that the Bundesbank has no interest in higher capital market rates."

Later, the West German finance minister spoke to reporters about his Monday night talks with Mr. Baker during which they reaffirmed their faith in the "Louvre accord."

That Feb. 22 pact in Paris by leading industrial nations hinged on measures to end a slide in the dollar, which began in 1985 under the weight of America's trade deficit, and on moves by Japan and West Germany to stimulate their economies so their consumers bought more U.S. and other goods.

The dollar perked up on Tuesday after Mr. Baker's Frankfurt talks and traded in currency markets around 1.79 West German marks and 142.70 yen, after dipping to 1.77 and 141.50 on Monday.

Stockbrokers say that if the dollar goes into a tailspin it would be likely to make things worse for share prices. A weaker dollar spells higher U.S. inflation, Mr. Stoltenberg did not rule out central bank intervention to prob the dollar.

The price of gold, a favoured investor refuge, was scarcely roaring ahead. It was set in London on Tuesday morning at \$481.60 an ounce, barely changed from Monday's close.

Bonds and short-term bank deposits seemed to be taking the money that has gone out of the stock markets as well as gold.

"Fixed-interest securities, like gold, are a safe haven," said a senior dealer in British government bond futures. "But the crash in equities has meant a drastic loss of confidence in financial markets generally, and it's going to be hard to convince people to keep money anywhere except under their beds."

The stock market falls are wiping out gains made in a dramatic "bull" market begun in 1982 when the Dow Jones industrial average, Wall Street's barometer, was at 775.

On Monday it fell to 1,738.41 down from a peak this summer above 2,700 and back where it was in April, 1986. The London's 100-share index is now where it was last January.

Here is how it went in the stock markets around the world on Tuesday:

Tokyo, the largest exchange, suffered a record 3,836-point decline to end at 21,910, representing a 14.9 per cent drop in value. The previous record one-day decline was set in 1953.

In Sydney, the key share index dropped a phenomenal 515.6 points, or 24.9 per cent lower at 1,549 as brokers reported panic selling across the board.

Hong Kong officials closed the market before it even opened for fear that nervous investors would push the index through the floor. Singapore fell a record 255.3 points.

A Tokyo broker said: "It is sheer panic because of Wall Street. Nobody has any time to do anything but answer calls from clients who are just screaming down the phone."

The London Financial Times Stock Exchange index went below 1,800 for the first time since January, falling more than 300 points before midday. Figures showing high bank lending, suggesting a British consumer boom may be stoking up inflation, further hit the London exchange.

But the London market picked itself off the bottom and the index crept up above 1,800 again in early afternoon from a low of 1,748.2.

And in Frankfurt, the Boersen-Zeitung index declined only 1.2 per cent in early business after dropping 9.39 per cent on Monday.

Paris tried a rally but the bourse indicator was down nearly eight per cent from Monday's close and the Swiss index began 3.7 per cent lower. Sweden's bourse fell 15 per cent, a record.

Economists estimate losses at \$2,000 billion

Economists said that huge sums of money are vanishing into thin air as world stock markets plunge, money that will never be spent, or lent, and whose disappearance could threaten the financial health of companies around the world.

"It's been a massive loss of wealth," said Mr. Sykes Wilford, an economist at investment bankers Drexel Burnham Lambert in London.

In their panic to unload shares, investors have been willing to sell shares at prices far below what they paid — economists estimate that means some \$2,000 billion of wealth, at least paper wealth, has vanished.

The dealers and brokers who were quoting such sharply lower prices, trying to stop investors selling, now find themselves owning shares they did not want and may have a hard time affording.

The money that investors salvaged has poured into bonds and bank deposits — in times of panic the financial markets' equivalent of money under the mattress.

Not even the biggest investors were exempt. The banks, insurance companies and other financial institutions whose loans keep factory production lines moving around the world, will have less money to do so in the future.

Companies wanting to expand may find it harder to afford. Companies needing short term loans to tide them over until customers pay their bills may find themselves squeezed.

Some of those customers, of course, have lost money as their own share investments slumped.

The brokers and dealers who are now, in large part, the owners of shares sold by panicky investors, have strongly denied rumours already flying about that some face major problems staying solvent.

In the longer run, if investors lose confidence in share markets, companies may have a harder time raising money by selling

shares. Analysts say investors are already less likely to be buying in the British government's sale of £7.2 billion (\$12 billion) of British Petroleum Co Plc shares this month.

So far, investors have been buying some bonds — the benchmark U.S. treasury 30-year bond jumped more than four points on Monday — and even more notes and bills, the short term interest-paying paper issued by governments.

Money is also piling into bank deposits. In London, the rate banks offer to pay other banks for short term deposits fell half a percentage point as banks eagerly sought a place to stash money that had been in shares.

The price of gold, a haven for investors when all others fall, jumped more than \$15 an ounce on Monday to over \$481 and held at that level on Tuesday morning.

Pandemonium hits Australian stock exchanges

In Sydney, thousands of investors swamped Australian stock exchanges on Tuesday in a frenzied attempt to off-load their shareholdings as prices plunged.

The panic selling, following the collapse of New York's Wall Street exchange and other major world share markets, was the worst ever to hit Australia, brokers said.

Nervous punters packed the public gallery of the Sydney Stock Exchange watching their savings evaporate as dealers on the floor frantically tried to sell at ever-declining prices.

A placard held above the heads of helpless retired investors and young business executives in the gallery carried a forlorn message to the dealers below — "Don't Panic."

But it did nothing to stem the pandemonium as prices were marked down in an attempt to entice the few buyers.

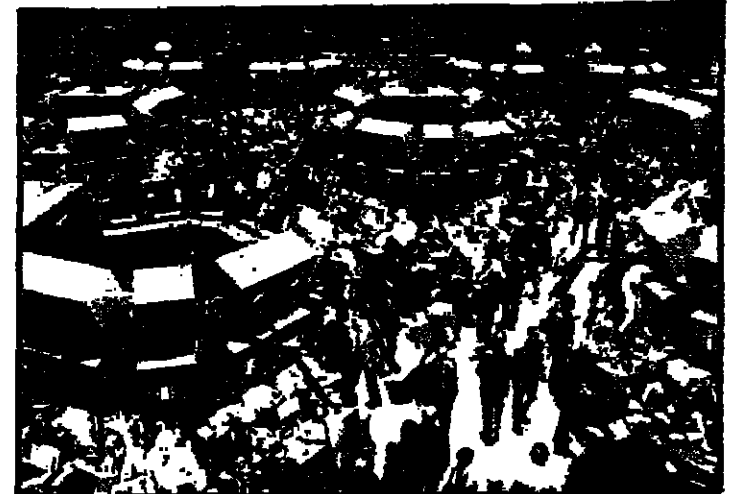
Share market dealers, with instructions from some clients to sell at any cost, screamed across the stock exchange floor to capture the few buyers hunting for bargains.

Brokers said some clients set no limits. "They just want to get rid of their shares before they hit rock bottom. We have never seen anything like this. It is the worst in living memory," one broker who did not want to be named told Reuters.

"It's the small investor who is suffering. The average Australian is already trying to cut his losses, but is paying a heavy price," he said.

Leading stockbroker Rene Rivkin emerged on the trading floor Tuesday morning, fingering his gold worry beads and describing the scenes as "a major disaster" and "an absolute shambles."

He said while tycoons like Rupert Murdoch and Robert Holmes A Court had lost a fortune in a matter of hours, others stood to make big profits. Those who bought today, when some share prices were more than 50 per cent lower, would in two or three years be "laughing," Mr.



New York Stock Exchange

Rivkin said.

Brokers said some shrewd investors with surplus cash are starting to capitalise on what they see as a gross overreaction of world stock markets, with a view to making quick profits.

Mr. Tim Hughes, an economist with Rothschild Fund Managers, said: "At the current share price level it's worth buying the entire market."

More than 60 billion dollars (\$43 billion) was wiped off Australian share values Tuesday but the free fall was not yet over, stock market analysts said.

Hong Kong legislators fear damage to reputation

In Hong Kong, brokers defended Tuesday's suspension of trading on the Hong Kong stock exchange but legislators said a long halt could hurt the British colony's reputation as a financial centre.

Trading was suspended on Tuesday morning until next week to protect investors following a steep slide in share prices in Hong Kong and on Wall Street.

Mr. David Li, a member of the colony's legislative council and managing director of the Hong Kong-based Bank of East Asia, welcomed the suspension but said a one-day halt would be enough. "I believe the exchange is over-reacting. A long suspension will damage Hong Kong's reputation as a financial centre and hurt foreign investors' confidence," he said.

Another legislator, Mr. Hui Yu-fat, supported the suspension but echoed concern that a prolonged halt could tarnish Hong Kong's image.

"What will they do if the market resumes its fall next week?" he asked.

Legislator Lee Yu-Tai said small investors were hard hit by the decision as some were paying interest on loans to buy stock and a long suspension increased their losses.

The colony's financial secretary, Mr. Piers Jacobs, said the decision was explicable, but added: "It does seem rather a long time."

"We will remain in close contact with the chairman of the stock exchange to see how quickly the market can be opened in an orderly manner," he said.

Hong Kong's main stock indicator, the Hang Seng index, tumbled 420.81 points to 3,362.39

on Monday — its biggest one-day fall in absolute terms.

In announcing the suspension on Tuesday morning, exchange chairman, Mr. Ronald Li, said: "This will protect investors and allow brokers to settle a backlog of orders."

Mr. George Tan, assistant director at investment firm Greenwell Montagu said: "It was a very wise move. Hong Kong is a volatile market and this will let things settle down."

Mr. John Mackenzie, chairman of the Hong Kong Association of Banks, said: "I feel that it is not at all a bad thing that investors and investment managers be given a breathing space."

Reagan concerned

In Washington President Reagan said on Monday he was puzzled by the record drop in stock prices because the U.S. economy is sound.

"I think everyone is puzzled... because all the business indices are up. There is nothing wrong with the economy," he told reporters.

President Reagan said he did not know what was causing the market slide but suggested:

"Maybe some people have seen a chance to grab a profit. I don't think anyone should panic because all the economic indicators are solid," he said.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said in a written statement that President Reagan watched with concern the decline on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones industrial average plunged more than 500 points.

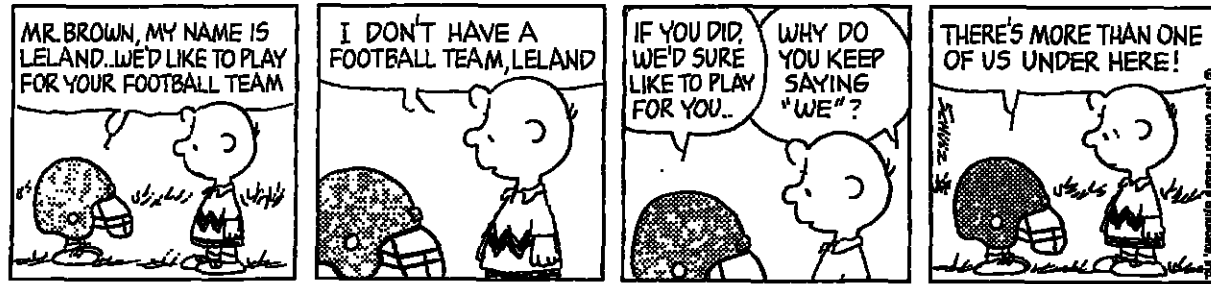
The statement said President Reagan had directed administration officials to consult leading financial experts, including the chairmen of the Federal Reserve, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the New York Stock Exchange.

"These consultations confirm our view that the underlying economy remains sound," Mr. Fitzwater said.

His statement, issued about 45 minutes after the stock market closed, appeared designed to calm investors worried about U.S. economic prospects.

"We are in the longest peacetime expansion in history. Employment is at the highest level ever. Manufacturing output is up. The trade deficit, when adjusted for changes in currencies, is steadily improving."

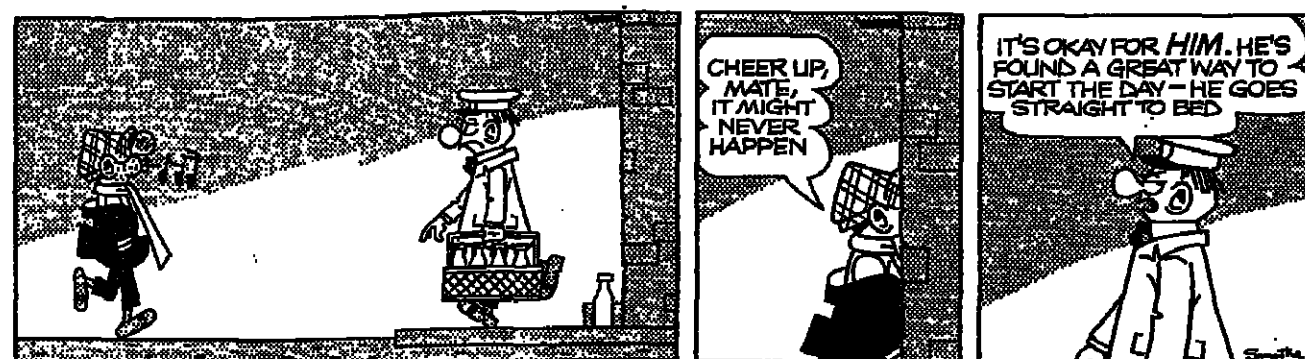
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff

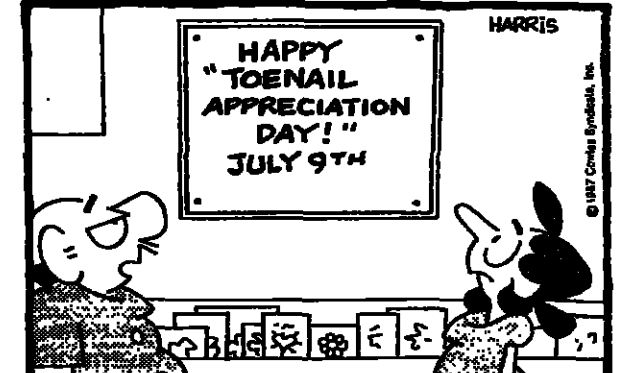


Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Personally, I think the card companies and the florists are getting greedy!"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NORTS

UFORR

WAYYAN

BLOTEG

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOURN KNEEL GADFLY RANCOR
Answer: Noah was the first student of this—
"ARK-EOLOGY"

كنا من ليل

Indian forces meeting heavy resistance in Jaffna

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Indian troops met fierce resistance from Tamil guerrillas Tuesday as they tried to link up with an Indian force holding the centre of Jaffna, Sri Lankan military sources said.

An Indian column led by tanks and armoured personnel carriers was trying to move in from the north, according to the sources, who spoke on condition of not being identified.

On Monday, India said its forces on Jaffna's southern waterfront had moved out of the old Dutch colonial fort and captured the central bus station, town hall and other public buildings in the middle of the city.

There was no confirmation of the reports. India has not allowed journalists to visit Jaffna.

The Sri Lankan military sources said the Indians were searching for eight top leaders of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). "If these eight are captured, the backbone of the LTTE will be broken," one official said.

The Tigers, whose chief stronghold is Jaffna, have waged a 5-year-old guerrilla war against Sri Lanka's Sinhalese-dominated government in their quest for an independent Tamil nation.

The Tigers have vowed to fight to the last man. They have an estimated 500 fighters in Jaffna, including a 150-man suicide squad known as the Black Tigers.

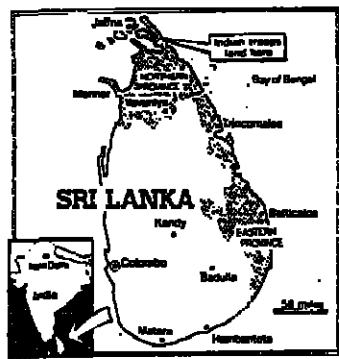
Using hit-and-run tactics as well as entrenched bunker positions, the Tigers have held out against the Indians since the peacekeeping force launched its offensive on Oct. 10.

India sponsored a July 29 peace pact aimed at ending the ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, an island off India's southern coast. The plan called for Tamil rebels to lay down their arms in exchange for a measure on autonomy in northern and eastern Sri Lanka, the major population centres of the country's Tamil minority.

On Monday, civic leaders in Jaffna said as many as 700 civilians had been killed in the Indian siege. In a letter carried out of Jaffna, the group urged Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene to end the offensive by the Indian Peacekeeping Force (IPKF).

"It appears that the IPKF is expecting the people to face death in their houses or to go to refugee camps and face death," the letter said. A copy was sent to a Colombo Tamil-language newspaper, Virakesan.

Indian officials in New Delhi and Colombo denied there had been heavy civilian casualties but said they were unable to give



figures. They said Indian forces had held back their firepower in an effort to minimise civilian casualties.

Jaffna, 300 kilometres north of Colombo, had a peacetime population of 150,000. A senior Sri Lankan official, who spoke on condition of not being identified, said Monday that most people had fled to shelters and about 50,000 remained in their homes.

An estimated 17,000 Indian soldiers are deployed in Sri Lanka to enforce the peace plan. India's involvement in the Sri Lankan ethnic violence stems in part from its own politically powerful Tamil minority of 60 million.

In Sri Lanka, Tamils account for about 18 per cent of the 16 million people. The Sinhalese, comprising 75 per cent, hold most top government and military posts.

Philippine congress blast damages phone booth

MANILA (R) — An explosive device blew up in the Philippine congress building early on Tuesday, a congressional security official said.

He said no one was injured in the blast which damaged a telephone booth on the building's second floor.

Captain Rosalo Ylagan, head of congressional security, said the device could have been a home-made bomb or a large firecracker. The explosion was being investigated, he added.

No congressmen were present in the building at the time.

The blast followed a night of rumours that military rebels, who tried to overthrow President Corazon Aquino two months ago, would launch another attack on key sites in the capital.

The military reinforced security around the Malacanang presidential palace and sent troops to a leading radio station.

A spokesman for Radio DZRH said the station, in Manila's business district, had received a stream of phone calls warning it that it was to be seized by rebel soldiers.

Meanwhile Vice President Salvador Laurel said Monday dissent within the military is the most critical problem facing the nation, and President Corazon Aquino may not last her full term in office unless she defuses it.

Mr. Laurel also said he and opposition Senator Juan Ponce Enrile were forming a "tactical alliance" to aid candidates in the Jan. 18 local elections — not to fight Mrs. Aquino. Reports of the alliance had sparked rumours that rightists were forming an "alternative government" in case Mrs. Aquino is overthrown before her term ends June 30, 1992.

More Tibetans arrested in anti-Chinese protest

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — A Tibetan woman was bundled kicking and crying into a police truck on Tuesday as she and four others tried to stage a hunger strike outside the Chinese embassy.

Still clutching a Tibetan flag, she lay moaning on the floor of the truck as her companions were also detained in an action that has been repeated frequently here since anti-Chinese protests erupted in Tibet on Oct. 1.

A Tibetan youth congress leader vowed they would continue efforts to take their protests to the Chinese embassy, while about 200 Tibetans and Indian supporters staged another noisy demonstration in the centre of New Delhi.

The Chinese mission has been a focus of Tibetan protests since the anti-China riots in the Tibetan capital Lhasa, but police maintain a strong presence there and swiftly move to stifle all demonstrations.

According to the youth congress, five were detained on Monday in one of the brief confrontations that have followed a similar pattern as a handful of Tibetans approach the high-walled embassy compound and sit down on the grass outside.

The activists are some of the 100,000 Tibetans who live in India under the spiritual guidance of the Dalai Lama who fled Lhasa after an abortive uprising in 1959.

Meanwhile, the Chinese embassy in Washington has said members of the U.S. Congress will be allowed to visit Tibet on condition their tour is for the sole purpose of promoting U.S.-Chinese friendship and comes at a convenient time.

Chinese embassy press officer Zhang Chiwei was commenting on plans of House Representatives members to make a fact-finding visit to check on human rights after recent riots in Tibet in which at least 14 deaths and numerous arrests were reported. Democratic Congressman Tom

Lantos, co-chairman of a congressional human rights caucus, told a hearing last week the United States rejects the idea that human rights in such countries as the Soviet Union, South Africa or Cuba are their internal affairs and it will not accept it for China.

Tibet, a remote Himalayan region called "the roof of the world," was occupied by Chinese troops in 1949-50.

He announced plans to organise a fact-finding mission to Tibet "in the very near future" to survey protection of human rights of approximately six million Tibetans.

The Chinese government has been criticising the Dalai Lama, and denouncing as interference in internal affairs, his recent visit to the United States, where he addressed Mr. Lantos' panel.

In his appearance in Congress, the Buddhist leader described the Chinese takeover of his homeland as a "holocaust."

"The affairs of Tibet are entirely China's internal affair in which no other country or people have the right to interfere," Zhang said in a weekend comment on his government's attitude toward what officials said would be the first-ever congressional visit to Tibet.

"We welcome members of the U.S. Congress to visit China, including Tibet, only when the time of the visit is convenient for both China and the United States and when the visit is for the sole purpose of promoting U.S.-China friendly relations and mutual understanding between the Chinese and American people," he added.

Mr. Lantos was asked if such conditions squared with plans for the visit. He replied that he and chairman Stephen Solarz of the House Asia-Pacific Subcommittee and other members of Congress "look forward to visiting both China and Tibet for a visit that will contribute to friendly relations between the United States and China."

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Aquino relatives high in wealth list

MANILA (R) — Two of President Corazon Aquino's relatives are among the five wealthiest members of the Philippine congress, according to statements filed on Monday. Aquino's younger brother, Jose Cojuangco, listed assets of 30.075 million pesos (\$1.47 million) making him the third richest congressman. Her sister-in-law, Teresa Aquino Oreta, declared 27,027 million (\$1.32 million) to rank fifth in the list. The statements of assets and liabilities which are required by law, listed 147 peso millionaires in the 250-member house of representatives. Logging magnate Democrito Plaza topped the list with assets of almost 42 million pesos (\$2.06 million) while the poorest, independent congressman Gualberto Lunaug, lists liabilities of 1.5 million pesos (\$73,529).

Mrs. Carter opens mental health congress

CAIRO (R) — Treatment of the mentally sick and their integration in society are issues at the centre of a four-day congress opened in Cairo on Monday by Rosalynn Carter, wife of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. Agenda topics range from drug abuse and depression, through meditation techniques to health services for the elderly. Several hundred psychiatrists, social workers and public health officials are attending the conference, organised by the World Federation for Mental Health, a U.S.-based psychiatric body.

Managua uses old money to make new ones

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Inflation has made the 20-cordoba note virtually worthless, so the government on Monday changed some of them into 20,000-cordoba bills. The move did not mean a 1,000 per cent increase in value for bills already changing hands. Instead, the government took uncirculated bills that it had in reserve, stamped three additional zeroes on them and added the phrase "twenty thousand." Inflation, which battered the economy at 657 per cent last year, is expected to reach 1,000 per cent this year. Joaquin Cuadra, president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua, declined to say how much of the new currency was put into circulation. He said there are about 215 million cordobas worth of 20 cordoba notes in circulation. But, he added, the bank "has taken the necessary precautions to avoid falsification" of the new bills. When the Sandinistas took power in 1979, the rate of exchange was 10 cordobas for \$1. Now, the black market rate is 16,000 to one. In 1979, there were bills ranging from one to 1,000 cordobas. In 1985, the government issued a 5,000-cordoba note. It never has issued a 10,000 cordoba note. The rate of inflation has been such that Nicaraguans have started carrying their money in bags to basic food items such as beans and rice and clothing. One waiter at the Los Ranchos Restaurant, who did not want his name used, said he recalled that in 1980 a grilled steak cost 35 cordobas but now it costs 68,750 cordobas.

Authorities shoot mating dogs

TOPEKA, Kansas (AP) — Security guards killed two dogs mating near an airport runway last month out of fear they posed a danger to a plane carrying President Ronald Reagan. The incident has prompted letters of complaint to the White House and threats on the life of the man who ordered the shooting. "We did what we had to do," said Marvin Hancock, deputy director of the Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority. "We were told anything that moves has to be removed." Hancock said Forbes field security officers were combing the grounds on Sept. 6 just before Mr. Reagan's scheduled arrival on Air Force One. Mr. Reagan travelled to Topeka for a 100 birthday celebration for former Gov. Alf Landon, who died last week. Douglas W. Buchholz, special agent in charge of the secret service's Kansas City office, said airport security was ordered to "take care of the problem" of the dogs, but he said he did not know shooting the animals was going to be the solution. Security officers first beat the dogs with heavy welding gloves in order to separate them. When that failed, they shot the dogs, Hancock said. The bodies were carted off in plastic bags and burned. Hancock said the dogs might have entered the runway and interfered with the Boeing 707 jet carrying the president. He said there wasn't time to move the dogs or spray water on them before the plane landed.

Bear munches plane to get at meat

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A grizzly bear bent on a meal of moose meat wrecked a small plane to get at its tasty cargo, forcing pilot Ed Gurtler to flee by boat. "As an old-timer once told me, you can always get a new airplane, but you can't get a new pilot," Gurtler said. "He ate well. I gave him everything but salt and pepper with the airplane." Gurtler said he was returning to his plane on a sandbar in the Innoko River near Cripple Lake on Oct. 12 when he heard the aircraft taking a beating. When he got closer he shined his light on the plane and saw a big grizzly staring back. He fired a shot over the bear. "He just looked right into the headlights," Gurtler said. "What can you do then? Anything that big, at night, you're not hunting him. He's hunting you." The bear already had bent the plane's fuselage by picking it up and slamming it down. The animal was determined to get at 500 pounds (227 kg) of moose meat inside the Cessna 170. Gurtler said. When the bear ignored his shot, Gurtler said he retreated to his riverboat and headed back to his homestead. The next morning, the 500 pounds of moose meat inside the plane had been reduced to 200 pounds (90 kg), and the plane looked as if it had crashed. While Gurtler waited, the bear returned each night. He had removed the moose meat, but that did not discourage the hungry bear.

Mobile phones to be linked with satellite

GENEVA (R) — A hunter chasing moose in Alaska may soon be able to telephone a hotel in Tahiti from his jeep after a decision reached here to link mobile phone systems with satellites, telecommunications officials have said. The International Telecommunications Union (ITU), which regulates communications worldwide, announced the decision at the end of a five-week conference which ended at the weekend. Until now car phones have been linked with land stations and have been limited mainly to urban areas. ITU Secretary-General R.E. Butler led a news briefing the conference took "major steps toward the introduction of new technologies well beyond the year 2000." If implemented, the system would enable fleet owners to trace the movements of their lorries, cars and ships around the world within a radius under a "radio determination satellite system."

'Man too repulsive to get fair rape trial'

MINEOLA, New York (AP) — The lawyer for a 500-pound (227-kg) man known as "big daddy" says his client's obesity and ugliness could prevent him from getting a fair trial on a rape charge involving a 14-year-old girl. "He doesn't look like a sympathetic character," Attorney Theodore W. Robinson said about his client, John L. Adams. "He's obese. He's ugly. I have studies that show you can't get a fair trial for an obese man." Adams, 43, pleaded innocent to the charges Friday after he was wheeled into court on a stretcher. Judge Edward A. Baker ordered him held on a \$25,000-bail. Detective Carol Ryder said the girl arrived from California in January and allegedly met Adams at a topless bar. The detective said the girl lived with Adams from time to time at his home at a senior citizens complex, where they engaged in sex with her consent. Police said the defendant drove the 14-year-old runaway to topless bars in New York, where she danced from January until she complained last month to authorities. Ms. Ryder said the girl has returned to her parents in California. Adams, who has been arrested a dozen times, served three years of a five-year term in prison after he pleaded guilty in 1980 to rape, criminal possession of marijuana and endangering the welfare of a minor.

Meese ready to answer all questions from grand jury

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese III has confirmed that he has been subpoenaed to testify Thursday before a federal grand jury conducting a criminal investigation into his involvement with scandal-plagued Wedtech Corp.

"I will answer any questions," Mr. Meese said Monday. A grand jury is a panel of citizens that considers evidence in criminal cases and recommends what charges, if any, should be filed.

Wedtech, a New York defence contractor, is now the subject of state and federal investigations into allegations that it bribed public officials to win contracts.

In addition to his involvement with Wedtech, Mr. Meese has been under investigation in connection with a proposed Mideast oil pipeline in which his longtime friend and former attorney, E.

Robert Wallach, was involved. Mr. Meese has acknowledged interceding on behalf of Wedtech in 1981 and 1982 when he was serving as White House counsel.

His actions ended up helping the company win a \$32 million no-bid contract to build small engines for the army. In 1985, Wallach introduced Mr. Meese to a Wedtech consultant who later invested \$55,000 of the attorney general's money and earned him a \$40,000 profit in 19 months.

On the proposed pipeline construction project in Iraq, Mr. Meese introduced Wallach in 1985 to then-National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane. The White House ended up supporting the pipeline, which was never built. Mr. Wallach was representing one of the partners in the proposed deal.

Doctors see improvement in Texas child's injured foot

MIDLAND, Texas (AP) — Doctors inspected, cleaned and tested Jessica McClure's damaged right foot in exploratory surgery, and said it has recuperated somewhat from the stress of 2½ days in a well.

"I don't think we're totally out of the woods. I think we feel a little better today," orthopaedic surgeon Charles Younger said at a news conference at Midland Memorial Hospital.

The 18-month-old girl, who was pulled out of the well Friday after being stuck 22 feet (7 metres) down for 58 hours, was still in serious but stable condition after Monday morning's procedure, officials said.

Jessica's right foot was wedged against the wall of the well, cutting off much of the blood circulation and causing severe injury. She also has a pressure wound, similar to a bed sore, on her forehead.

Asked to estimate the chances

that the toddler's foot might be amputated, Dr. Younger said. "I would hate to put a percentage on it, but I think we're all on the optimistic side."

In Monday's procedure, doctors cleaned and inspected Jessica's foot. Then they used a dye and a laser to determine whether blood was flowing.

"There are spotty areas where the dye made it and areas where the dye didn't make it," Dr. Younger said, adding that they probably would have seen the dye diffuse farther into the foot if they had waited longer.

The doctors also used a device called a doppler laser, which can detect movement of blood cells through capillaries. Dr. Younger said there appears to be flow throughout the foot.

The doctors said Jessica's right big toe and areas on the outside edge and instep of the foot are most heavily damaged.

Jakarta train crash toll rises to 155

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — The death toll from the head-on collision of two passenger trains crowded with commuters has risen to 155, with 270 other people still hospitalised, police said Tuesday.

Meanwhile, a passenger who missed one of the trains said he saw it pull out of a station without a go sign from the station master, who tried to stop the train by waving his red flag.

Officials of the Department of Communications declined to comment on the report, saying a statement would be made later. Police said 17 railway personnel have been detained for questioning in the crash.

A police spokesman said 154 people still were in critical condition and 116 others had suffered minor injuries in Monday's collision south of Jakarta.

Police said all bodies had been extricated from the wreckage and taken to the morgues at several hospitals.

Rescue workers aided by more than 300 soldiers and police had been working round-the-clock, while 25 ambulances and three helicopters carried the victims to hospitals.

Former contra chief back in Nicaragua

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Former Nicaraguan rebel leader Edgar Chamorro returned Monday to Nicaragua under a government amnesty and said he would stay "as long as I can to work for peace and reconciliation."

A large group of journalists and photographers, but no government officials, met Mr. Chamorro at the airport when he returned for the first time since before the Sandinistas took power in 1979.

There appeared to be no formalities related to the amnesty and he went through immigration and left the airport like any other citizen.

Foreign Ministry sources said he asked the Nicaraguan consulate in Washington for an entry visa two weeks ago. It was granted within the framework of the amnesty, available to any rebels who put down their weapons, the sources said.

Mr. Chamorro did not say how long he would stay on or what he would do while in Nicaragua. However, he said in Washington last week he would make a two-week trip to speak, write, travel to villages and decide whether to return permanently.

Mr. Chamorro was a civilian member of the directorate of the U.S.-backed contra rebels from 1982 to 1984. When he left, he charged that the CIA was manipulating the movement. Since then, he has been a consultant on Latin American issues in Washington.

Asked at the airport why he left the contra movement, he said he did not agree "with the injustices and atrocities that the forces backed by the United States commit."

"It is time for them to stop," he said, but did not elaborate.

In an interview before leaving Washington, he said he wanted to

test the Sandinistas' promises of amnesty and greater freedoms.

"It is important for Nicaragua to go back, with an open mind, and see if the Sandinistas really mean what they are saying," he said.

"I want to be as centrist as possible," he said. "I believe that people like me should be down there to soften extremes."

The Sandinistas, who came to power at the end of the 1978-79 revolution that overthrew the late President Anastasio Somoza, declared an amnesty in 1985 and reaffirmed it with the signing of a new Central American peace plan on Aug. 7.

Meanwhile a radio station that was silenced, then reopened by the leftist government was told by censors Monday it could not broadcast any news without official permission.

Auxiliadora Echegoven, the new director of Radio Catolica, said the station had started broadcasting the musical introduction that identifies the news programme when government censor Lt. Lisette Torres called on the telephone.

The censor informed the Roman Catholic station that it could not broadcast any news programme without prior government permission, in accordance with the law, Ms. Echegoven said.

Isolda Hurtado, Interior Ministry press secretary, said Radio Catolica must apply for the legal required authorisation for the news programme and register the name of its director, the broadcast time and other information.

Ms. Hurtado added that the Interior Ministry has no objection to Radio Catolica broadcasting news.

The censorship applied only to the news programme and the station continued on the air with religious and music program-

ing. Ms. Echegoven said she did not know if Monsignor Bismarck Carballo, the station's director, would seek permission to broadcast news.

Ignacio Briones Torres, assistant news director, said the news programme had included a commentary calling for a general amnesty in the country.

Amnesties are among the points in the Central American peace plan signed by the presidents of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica on Aug. 7.

Radio Catolica also had planned to broadcast an interview with Lino Hernandez, director of the independent Permanent Commission on Human Rights, in which he urged President Daniel Ortega to carry out the peace plan.

Radio Catolica was shut down on Jan. 1, 1986 when it refused to broadcast a speech by Mr. Ortega.

The station reopened on Oct. 2, a day after the opposition newspaper La Prensa published its first edition since June 1986. Mr. Ortega's leftist Sandinista government said it was allowing them to resume operations in compliance with the peace plan's stipulation that the signatory countries must have freedom of the press and of speech.

The peace plan is aimed at ending lengthy civil wars in Nicaragua and El Salvador and lesser conflicts in Guatemala and Honduras. Together, the fighting has claimed more than 100,000 lives, left tens of thousands homeless and seriously damaged the region's economy.

The plan also calls for an end to all outside aid to insurgents in the region, ceasefires and concrete steps toward democracy in all Central American nations. The deadline for compliance is Nov. 7.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
Top: From World Science, Inc.

SNAPPED UP BY THE DEFENSE

East	West	North	South
♠ 6 5	♠ 10 5	♠ 9 8 7	♠ 4 3 2
♥ 10 4 2	♥ 9 8 7 5	♥ 6 4	♥ 3
♦ A K J 7	♦ Q 9 8 6 4	♦ 3	♦ 2
♣ 9 7	♣ A 10 6 3	♣ A 9 7 3	♣ 8 5 2
		♣ Q 4	
North	East	South	West
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	Dbt
2 ♠	3 ♠	3 ♠	Dbt
4 ♠	Dbt	Pass	Pass

These doubles are a feature of duplicate bridge. In the recent World Pair Olympiad held in Miami Beach, Pauline Gumbly of Australia had to come up with a fine effort on defense to justify her partner's penalty double.

Since East-West can make nine tricks at a heart contract, four diamonds doubled by North-South

was the par contract. All that remained was for East-West to defeat the contract.

Gumbly led the king of hearts and continued with the ace. Declarer ruffed, drew trumps in two rounds and led a low club to the king in dummy. East took his ace and shifted to the queen of spades. Declarer flew up with the ace, cashed the queen and jack of clubs and, when the suit did not break evenly, ruffed his fourth club. He then exited with a low spade.

Had West followed with a low card, East would have won the trick. However, he would then have been forced to lead a heart and concede a ruff-sluff, allowing declarer to get home. But West decided that, had East started with Q-x in spades, he might have returned a low spade to make life easier for his partner. So West shot up with the king of spades and was gratified to see partner's jack. She then cashed the ten of spades for the setting trick.

In the trade, this technique is known as the "Crocodile Coup." It derives its name from the fact that the defender must open his jaws wide like a crocodile to snap up his partner's high card in the suit and take him off an end play.